1976 Mets OFFICIAL YEARBOOK

REVISED EDITION

NATIONAL LEAGUE CENTENNIAL
1876-1976

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1976 NEW YORK METS ROSTER

MANAGER: Joe Frazier (55) **TEAM PHYSICIAN:** Dr. James Parkes **TRAINERS:** Tom McKenna, Joe Deer
COACHES: Willie Mays (24); Roy McMillan (51); Joe Pignatano (52); Eddie Yost (53); Rube Walker (54) **BATTING INSTRUCTOR:** Phil Cavarretta (50)

NO.	PITCHERS	B	T	HT.	WT.	Date and Place of Birth	RESIDENCE	1975 CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	BB	SO
34	Apodaca, Bob	R	R	5-11	175	1/31/50 Los Angeles, Cal.	Paramount, Cal.	METS	3-4	1.48	46	85	66	28	45
39	Espinosa, Nino	R	R	6-0	160	8/15/53 Villa Altagracia, Dom. Rep.	Villa Altagracia, D.R.	Tidewater	8-5	2.61	24	141	127	38	83
								METS	0-1	18.00	2	3	8	1	2
36	Koosman, Jerry	R	L	6-2	208	12/23/43 Appleton, Minn.	Morris, Minn.	METS	14-13	3.41	36	240	234	98	173
38	Lockwood, Skip	R	R	6-0	195	8/17/46 Boston, Mass.	Lynn, Mass.	Tucson	6-2	4.39	30	84	99	32	84
								Tidewater	1-0	0.00	3	5	0	1	5
								METS	1-3	1.50	24	48	28	25	61
29	Lolich, Mickey	R	L	6-0	215	9/12/40 Portland, Ore.	Washington, Mich.	Detroit	12-18	3.77	32	241	260	64	139
32	Matlack, Jon	L	L	6-3	205	1/19/50 West Chester, Pa.	Bedford, N. Y.	METS	16-12	3.38	33	229	224	58	154
44	Myrick, Bob	R	L	6-1	195	10/ 1/52 Hattiesburg, Miss.	Hattiesburg, Miss.	Jackson	7-4	3.26	22	116	98	49	70
								Tidewater	3-0	0.00	7	11	7	2	9
33	Sanders, Ken	R	R	5-11	175	7/ 8/41 St. Louis, Mo.	Hales Corners, Wisc.	Tidewater	6-1	1.34	27	47	39	8	28
								METS	1-1	2.30	29	43	31	14	8
41	Seaver, Tom	R	R	6-1	206	11/17/44 Fresno, Cal.	Greenwich, Conn.	METS	22-9	2.38	36	280	217	88	243
27	Swan, Craig	R	R	6-3	225	11/30/50 Van Nuys, Cal.	Scottsdale, Ariz.	Tidewater	13-7	2.24	26	177	136	38	113
								METS	1-3	6.39	6	31	38	13	19

NO.	CATCHERS	B	T	HT.	WT.	Date and Place of Birth	RESIDENCE	1975 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
15	Grote, Jerry	R	R	5-11	190	10/ 6/42 San Antonio, Tex.	San Antonio, Tex.	METS	.295	119	386	114	2	39	0
42	Hodges, Ron	L	R	6-1	185	6/22/49 Franklin Co., Va.	Rocky Mount, Va.	Tidewater	.266	95	278	74	2	33	2
								METS	.206	9	34	7	2	4	0

NO.	INFIELDERS	B	T	HT.	WT.	Date and Place of Birth	RESIDENCE	1975 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
1	Foster, Leo	R	R	5-11	165	2/ 2/51 Covington, Ky.	Covington, Ky.	Tidewater	.247	94	304	75	2	25	11
3	Harrelson, Bud	SW	R	5-11	160	6/ 6/44 Niles, Cal.	Asharoken, N. Y.	METS	.219	34	73	16	0	3	6
7	Kranepool, Ed	L	L	6-3	210	11/ 8/44 Bronx, N. Y.	S. Farmingdale, N. Y.	METS	.323	106	325	105	4	43	1
17	Millan, Felix	R	R	5-11	172	8/21/43 Yabucoa, P. R.	Rio Piedras, P. R.	METS	.283	162	676	191	1	56	1
5	Phillips, Mike	L	R	6-0	180	8/19/50 Beaumont, Tex.	Irving, Tex.	SF-METS	.251	126	414	104	1	29	4
2	Staiger, Roy	R	R	6-0	200	1/ 6/50 Tulsa, Okla.	Tulsa, Okla.	Tidewater	.282	137	471	133	9	81	2
								METS	.158	13	19	3	0	0	0
9	Torre, Joe	R	R	6-1	200	7/18/40 Brooklyn, N. Y.	Fort Lee, N. J.	METS	.247	114	361	89	6	35	0

NO.	OUTFIELDERS	B	T	HT.	WT.	Date and Place of Birth	RESIDENCE	1975 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
4	Boisclair, Bruce	L	L	6-2	190	12/ 9/52 Putnam, Conn.	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Tidewater	.278	127	453	126	4	37	21
23	Brown, Leon	R	R	6-0	185	11/16/48 Sacramento, Cal.	Tempe, Ariz.	Phoenix	.328	92	256	84	2	36	17
25	Dwyer, Jim	L	L	5-10	175	1/ 3/50 Evergreen, Ill.	Chicago, Ill.	St. L-Mtl.	.272	81	206	56	3	21	4
								Tulsa	.404	33	109	44	1	27	1
26	Kingman, Dave	R	R	6-6	210	12/21/48 Pendleton, Ore.	Millbrae, Cal.	METS	.231	134	502	116	36	88	7
11	Mangual, Pepe	R	R	5-9	165	5/23/52 Ponce, P. R.	Ponce, P. R.	Montreal	.245	140	514	126	9	45	33
28	Milner, John	L	L	6-0	185	12/28/49 Atlanta, Ga.	East Point, Ga.	METS	.191	91	220	42	7	29	1
6	Vail, Mike	R	R	6-1	180	11/10/51 San Francisco, Cal.	San Jose, Cal.	Tidewater	.342	115	409	140	7	79	3
								METS	.302	38	162	49	3	17	0

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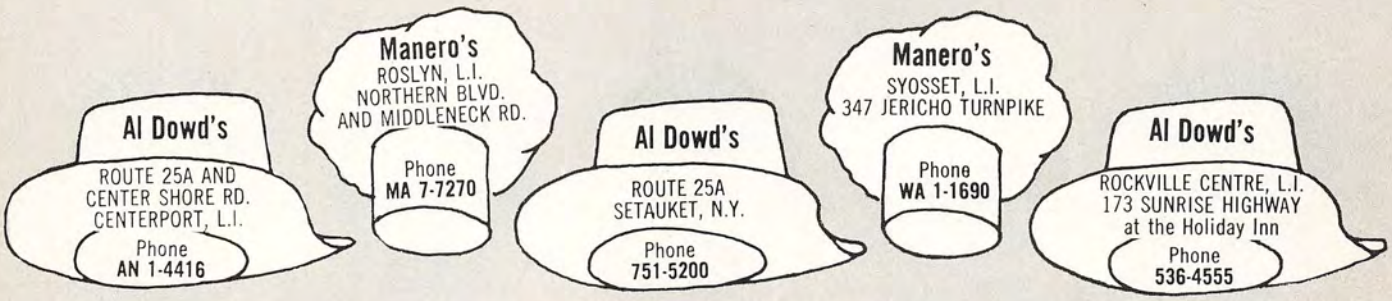

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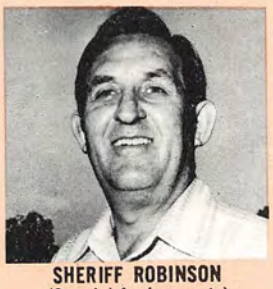

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SCOUTING STAFF

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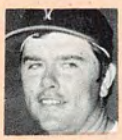

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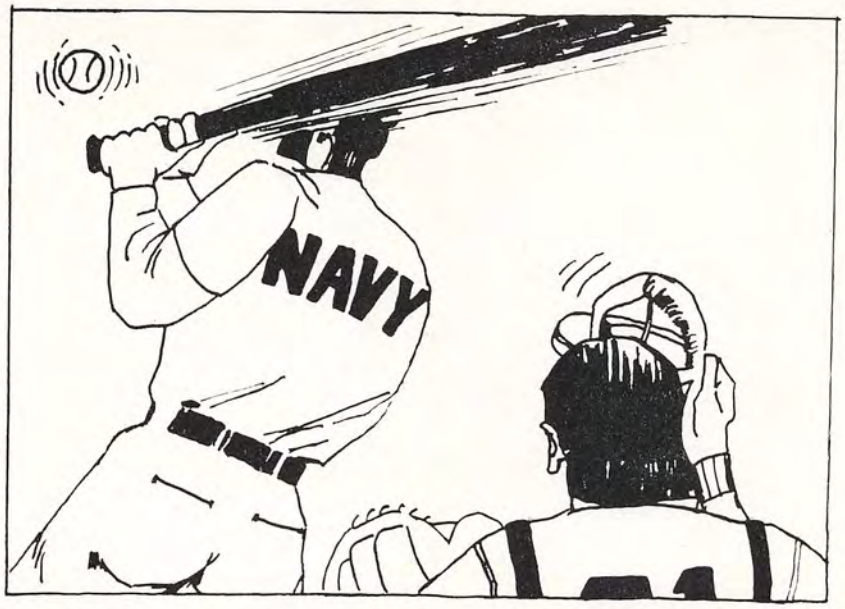

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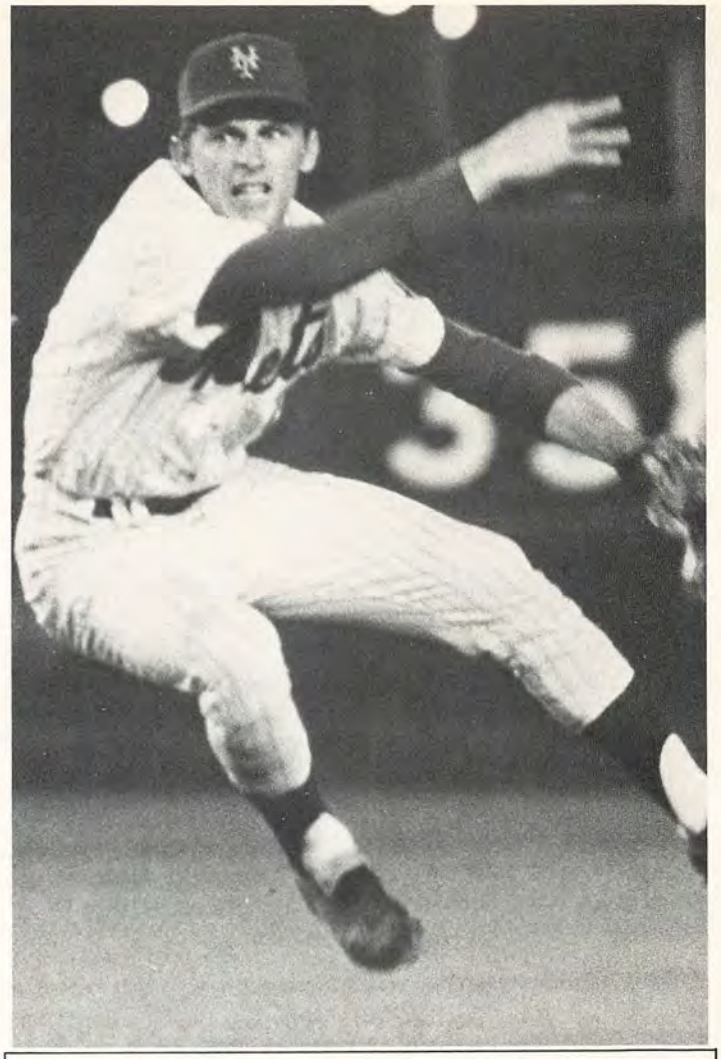
Bud Harrelson

BORN: June 6, 1944, Niles, Cal.
HT: 5-11; WT: 150;

1975: Plagued by another injury-stalked season begun on ominous note when spiked by Lou Brock, April 16, required five stitches in right hand; then endured pain-wracked period trying to function on damaged right knee which forced him to abandon batting lefthanded and resulted in May 31 surgery for fragment of loose cartilage (same knee had been operated on in 1968). . . Week after Roy McMillan replaced Yogi Berra as manager, served as first base coach—from Aug. 12-31, while on 60-day disabled list. . . . Reactivated Sept. 1, when marked return with single first time at bat to accompaniment of standing ovation. . . After season voluntarily went to St. Petersburg for dedicated Tom McKenna-supervised rehabilitation program comprised of isometrics, weight-lifting, jogging, fielding (with help of McKenna & minor league pitching coach Billy Connors) and running geared to eventual mile effort jubilantly ticked off in six minutes as most encouraging clue to knee's ability to withstand rigors of major league grind, continued program upon returning north before Yule holidays and resumed Florida workouts in mid-January.

Born on World War II's D-Day, guts of Mets infield has been ill-starred casualty of baseball wars during past four years—stretch over which he's missed 280 games—with run of injuries that included fractures of both hands, fractured sternum and strained back. . . All time Met leader in triples (39) and stolen bases (101) marked 1000th game June 4, 1974. . . Sparked stirring 1973 stretch drive to pennant after August return from second tour on disabled list; had tied major record of 14 assists May 24, in 19-inning win over Dodgers. . . Won Gold Glove and second of back-to-back All Star selections in 1971. . . Outstanding 1970 contributions included club record 95 walks, errorless streak of 54 games that equalled Don Kessinger's major league mark for shortstops, and 23 of 27 steals (two of home). . . Won basketball scholarship at San Francisco State after spectacular high school career climaxed by senior year captaincy of baseball, hoop and football (QB) teams; signed by Mets over offers of Yankees, Cardinals & Cubs following .430 freshman campaign at SF State.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1963-Salinas (A)	.221	36	136	21	30	2	2	1	9	16	32	8
1964-Salinas (A)	.231	135	441	65	102	12	5	3	48	64	96	12
1965-Buffalo (AAA)	.251	131	446	37	112	15	1	2	36	50	90	6
1965-Mets (NL)	.108	19	37	3	4	1	1	0	0	2	11	0
1966-Jacksonville (AAA) ...	.221	117	389	56	86	8	5	1	26	67	86	15
1966-Mets (NL)	.222	33	99	20	22	2	4	0	4	13	23	7
1967-Mets (NL)	.254	151	540	59	137	16	4	1	28	48	64	12
1968-Mets (NL)	.219	111	402	38	88	7	3	0	14	29	68	4
1969-Mets (NL)	.248	123	395	42	98	11	6	0	24	54	54	1
1970-Mets (NL)	.243	157	564	72	137	18	8	1	42	95	74	23
1971-Mets (NL)	.252	142	547	55	138	16	6	0	32	53	59	28
1972-Mets (NL)	.215	115	418	54	90	10	4	1	24	58	57	12
1973-Mets (NL)	.258	106	356	35	92	12	3	0	20	48	49	5
1974-Mets (NL)	.227	106	331	48	75	10	0	1	13	71	39	9
1975-Mets (NL)	.219	34	73	5	16	2	0	0	3	12	13	0
Major League Totals	.238	1097	3762	431	897	105	39	4	204	483	511	101



New role: Harrelson, filling in for Roy McMillan as coach from Aug. 12-31 while on disabled list, hands Tom Seaver jacket.

METS MEDICAL STAFF

DR. JAMES C. PARKES II: Successor to Dr. Peter LaMotte as team physician in 1974 has been Associate Attending Surgeon of Roosevelt Hospital since 1966. His other positions include Assistant Attending Surgeon at Columbia Presbyterian, and Supervisor of the surgical house of Roosevelt's Emergency Room. Dr. Parkes is a graduate of Dartmouth, attended Dartmouth and Harvard Medical Schools, and received his degree from Harvard in 1961. A Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve, he has written many orthopedic papers. Dr. Parkes is also an honorary New York City Police Surgeon.

TOM McKENNA: Replaced Gus Mauch as trainer in 1970 after serving in similar capacity with Washington Senators since 1961. Started pro training career with New York Rangers in 1946-47 and 1947-48. First baseball job was with Jersey City of International League in 1948. He then spent 13 seasons with Minneapolis of American Association before going to Washington.

JOE DEER: Joined Mets as trainer in 1964. Ended 20-year Navy career in 1962, when he attended Gus Mauch's School in Florida. Got first pro baseball job in spring of 1963 with Baltimore's Elmira (Eastern League) farm club.

Dr. James C. Parkes

★ The Manager: Joe Frazier ★

Eddie Stanky called him Cobra Joe—"he'd strike like a snake" as a pinch-hitter.

In the dugouts they called him Smokin' Joe because of his fiery personality.

His North Carolina mill town folks called him Joseph Fillmore (after America's 13th president).

And the hard-bitten press-radio-tv corps assembled at Shea Stadium last October 3 to meet the new manager of the Mets, was prepared to call him "Joe Who?"

But what no one can ever call Joe Frazier is timid or counterfeit. He's all man. And he's all there. After the mass interview the media concluded that he's also alright. Joe Frazier, self-styled country boy, made quite an impression—by not trying to make an impression. All he did was give homespun, straight-from-the-shoulder answers to cold, flush-on-the-jaw questions.

That's the only way he knows. It's one of the reasons his friends call him Plain Joe—as unsophisticated upon suddenly surfacing as a figure of national prominence, as the gypsy ball player who survived 14 years in the shadow of minor league eclipse and three of virtual obscurity in the majors.

The tally sheet added up to a playing career of 1,993 games—of which a mere 217—encompassing a .241 batting average and a total of 10 home runs represented the big leagues. It was scarcely a track record that threatened to run Ty Cobb out of Cooperstown. But swarthy, bull-shouldered Joe Frazier made his mark on the bench rather than the field. He paid his dues with a 10-year apprenticeship as a minor league manager. And now he was being introduced three days short of his 53rd birthday, as the manager of the Mets.

Questioned about the departure from name-oriented Shea tradition, Joe McDonald's explanation was simple and succinct: "Joe Frazeir's got all the qualifications you could want. He wins." The general manager is Frazier's loudest cheerleader.

Joe Frazier need never apologize for his 10-year managerial credentials. He won five pennants—and was deprived of a sixth by less than one percentage point, because of a rainout that wasn't made up! Four of those championships were produced for the Mets' organization, after he signed on in 1968. But more remarkable is his achievement of three consecutive pennants: back-to-back Texas League titles at Memphis and Victoria, followed by the International League flag at Tidewater last season en route to designation as "Minor League Manager-of-the-Year."

GENERAL MANAGER JOE McDONALD

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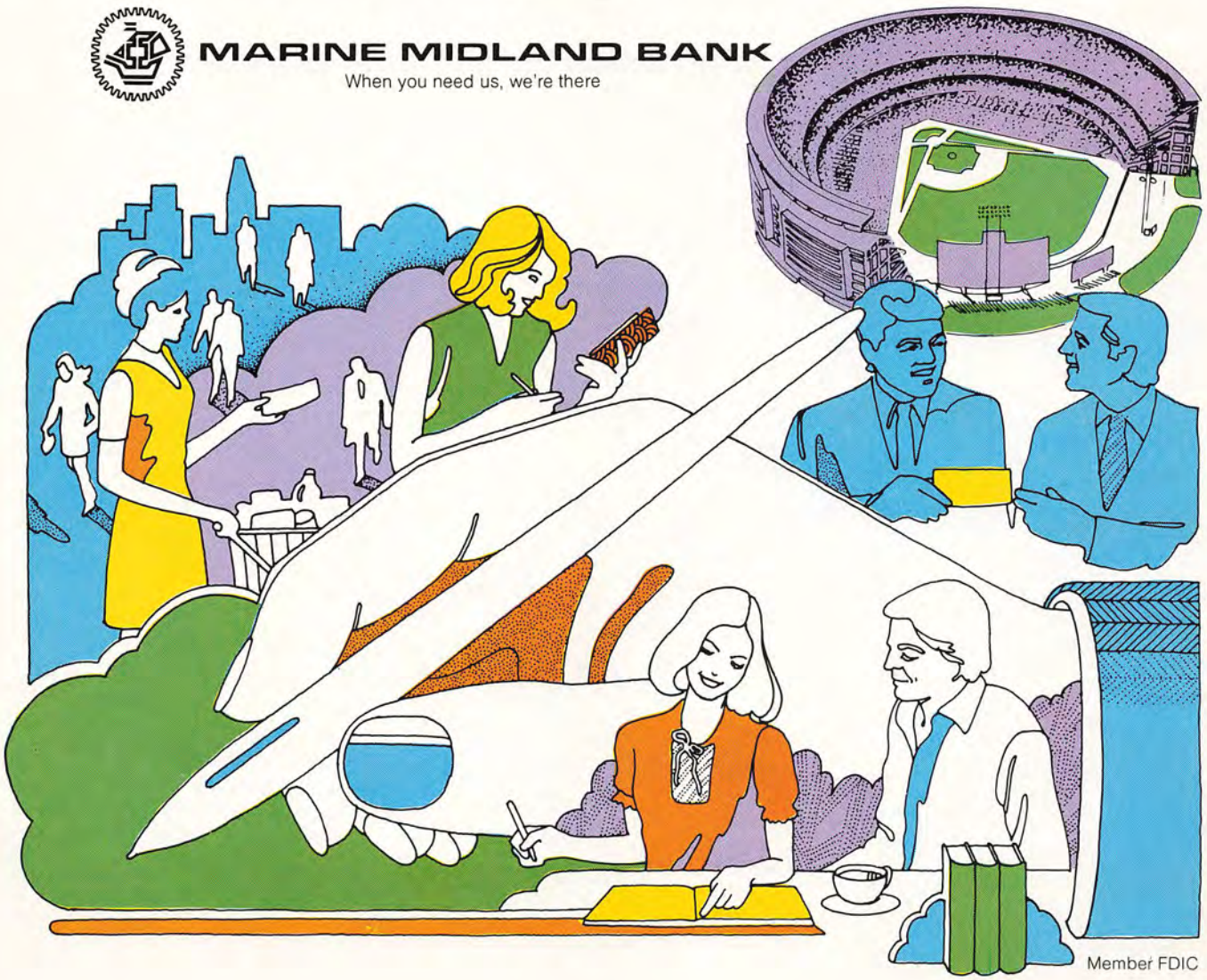

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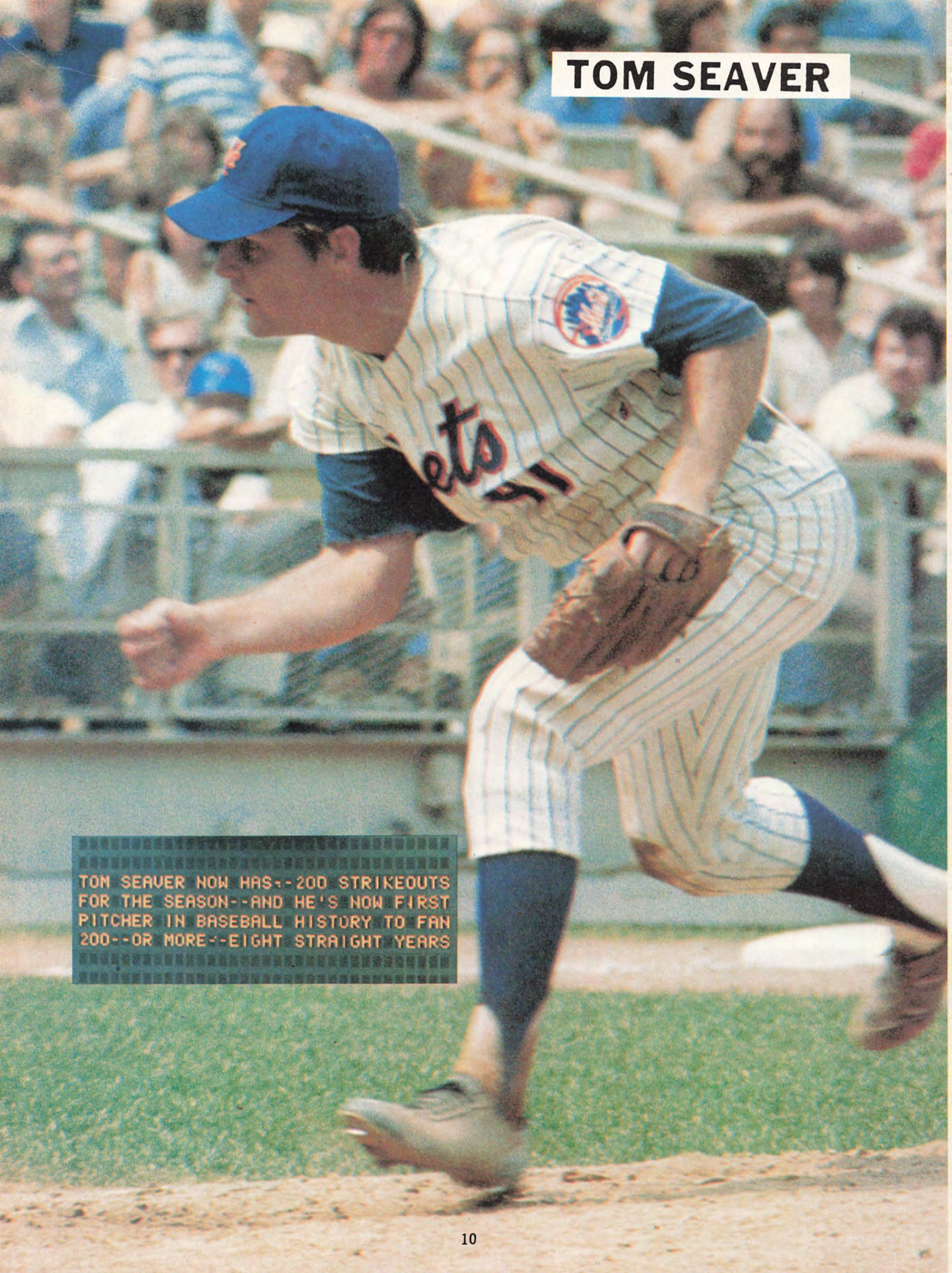
TOM SEAVER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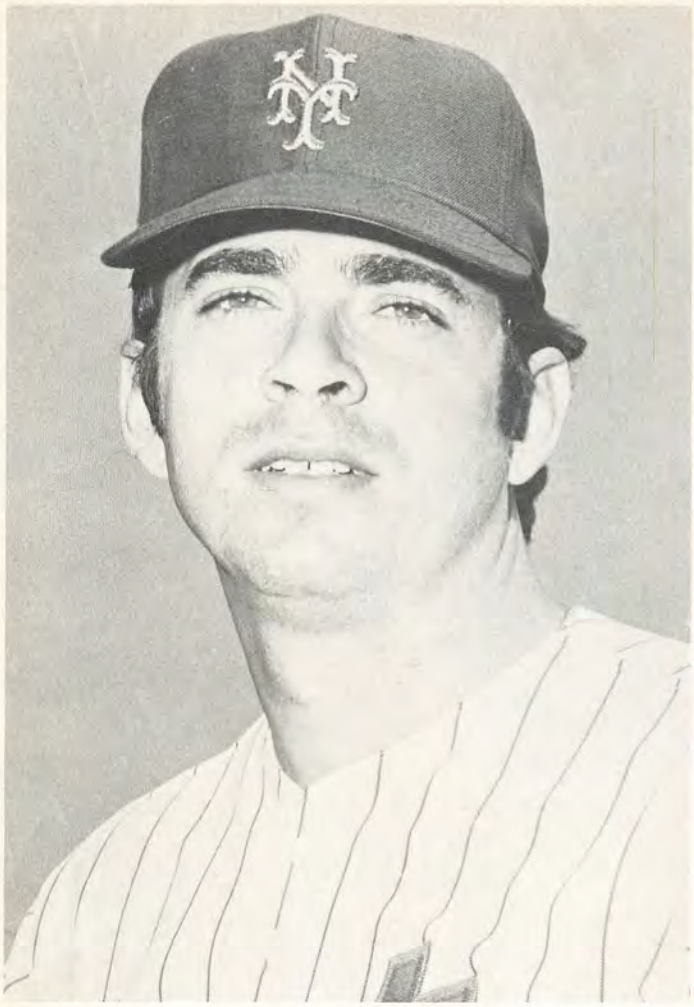

LOCKWOOD, Claude Edward "Skip"

BORN: Aug. 17, 1946, (29), Boston, Mass. **HT:** 6-0; **WT:** 195;

BATS: R; **THROWS:** R; **RESIDENCE:** Lynn, Mass.

ACQUIRED: Purchased by Mets' Tidewater affiliate from Oakland's Tucson farm, July 28, 1975.

1975: Purchased from Tucson July 28 by Tidewater farm club on recommendation of Mets' coast superscout Harry Minor and ticketed for Shea delivery at first available roster opening; brought up Aug. 4, after three relief outings and five scoreless innings, when Harry Parker was sold to Cardinals. . . Recovered effectiveness in bullpen at Tucson after staggering through nine starting turns at outset of season. . . Gained lone Met triumph Aug. 11 with five shutout innings against Padres.

$100,000 bonus baby as third baseman with Kansas City A's in 1964 (same year Catfish Hunter got $75,000 from A's) after brilliant scholastic baseball, basketball & track career. . . Converted into pitcher at 1967 Arizona Instructional League and drafted at subsequent major league winter meetings by Houston, which returned him to A's following spring. . . Selected by Seattle in AL expansion draft after 1968 season and went through a 48-day stretch of inactivity at Elmira; divided 1970 campaign with Brewers and Portland (PCL) after Seattle franchise was shifted to Milwaukee. . . Traded with Ollie Brown, Joe Lahoud, Gary Ryerson and Ellie Rodriguez to Angels for Clyde Wright, Steve Barber, Ken Berry and Art Kusnyer, Oct. 22, 1973; traded to Yankees for Bill Sudakis, Dec. 3, 1974; went to spring training with Yankees last year, but requested and received release rather than go to Syracuse farm on speculation. . . Leads majors in colleges attended (6): Merrimack, Boston College, Bryant & Stratton, Marquette, Carroll and Emerson; speech major, he boasted 3.93 average out of possible 4.00, and was 24 credits short of degree when returned to Emerson after 1975 season.

RECORD AS INFIELDER

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1964-Burlington (A)	.208	64	236	30	49	4	1	5	29	27	73	9
1965-Kansas City (AL)	.121	42	33	4	4	0	0	0	0	7	11	0
1966-Modesto (A)	.264	106	382	53	101	16	3	6	43	44	97	14
1967-Burlington (A)	.245	58	204	30	50	9	1	5	26	17	40	2

PITCHING RECORD

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1966-Modesto (A)	1-0	0.00	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1968-Birmingham (AA)	0-0	5.40	4	0	0	10	13	6	6	6	8
1968-Peninsula (A)	6-3	3.32	17	10	3	65	58	27	24	16	40
1969-Elmira (AA)	6-2	4.09	15	10	2	66	66	33	30	45	53
1969-Seattle (AL)	0-1	3.52	6	3	0	23	24	9	9	6	10
1970-Portland (AAA)	4-1	2.65	5	5	4	34	29	13	10	9	24
1970-Milwaukee (AL)	5-12	4.29	27	26	3	174	173	91	83	79	93
1971-Milwaukee (AL)	10-15	3.33	33	32	5	208	191	93	77	91	115
1972-Milwaukee (AL)	8-15	3.60	29	27	5	170	148	75	68	71	106
1973-Milwaukee (AL)	5-12	3.89	37	15	3	155	164	75	67	59	87
1974-California (AL)	2-5	4.33	37	2	0	81	81	42	39	32	39
1975-Tucson (AAA)	6-2	4.39	30	9	2	84	99	49	41	32	84
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	1-0	0.00	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	5
1975-Mets (NL)	1-3	1.50	24	0	0	48	28	9	8	25	61
Major League Totals	31-63	3.68	193	105	16	859	809	394	351	363	511

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Jerry Grote

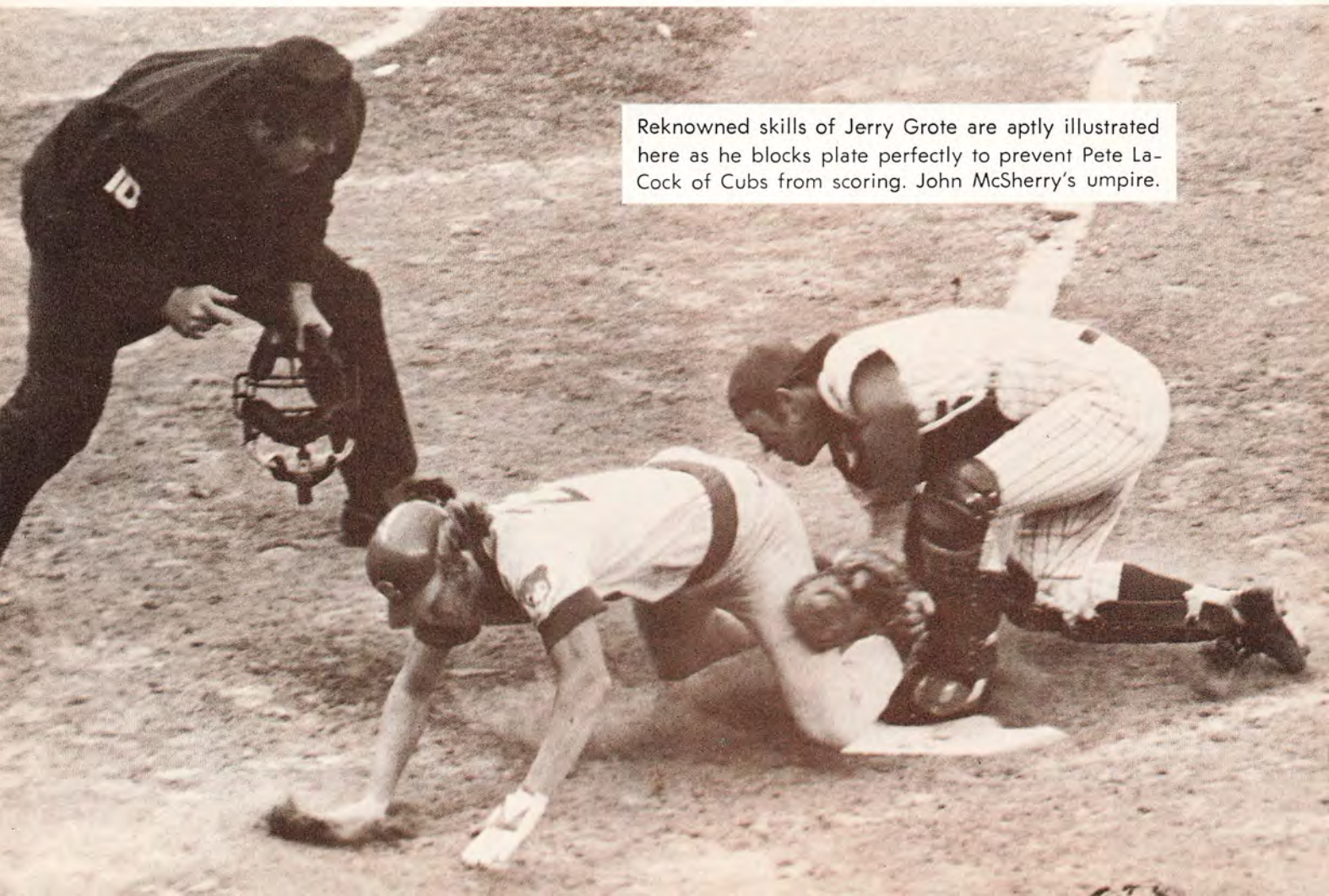
BORN: Oct. 6, 1942, San Antonio, Tex.

HT: 5-11; WT: 190;

1975: Achieved career high batting average (.295) and led NL catchers in fielding with .995 percentage (four errors in 765 chances)—credentials made noteworthy by the fact that they were compiled after he suffered severely damaged ligament in right hand from Doug Rader foul tip Aug. 26 that sidelined him for balance of 1974 season and caused heavy concern for his future . . Was league's fourth toughest batter to fan: one strikeout per 18.61 at-bats. . . Most dramatic blow: pinch 2- run homer with two out in 9th, July 4, off Tug McGraw, that beat Phillies 4-3. . . Best hitting streaks: eight games (June 7-18) and seven (July 13-23). . . Became advocate of transcendental meditation.

Picked up second All Star ring in 1974 on heels of vital contributions to 1973 pennant stretch run, after coming back from 60-day disabling arm fracture and broken finger four days after return from disabled list; wound up with 14 hits in subsequent Championship and World Series', of which he caught every inning, and set two World Series records: 71 chances and 67 putouts. . . Holds major league catching record of 20 putouts in nine-inning game (thanks to 19 San Diego strikeouts by Tom Seaver, April 22, 1970). . . Caught Ken Johnson's losing 1-0 no-hitter to Reds, April 23, 1964, with only one year of professional experience. . . Owns 350-acre ranch in Smiley, Tex., (pop. 440), to which he commutes from San Antonio home, 75 miles distant. . . Intense battle-scarred veteran acknowledged by peers as game's No. 1 defensive agent. Some testimonials—Johnny Bench: "If the Reds had Grote, I'd be playing third base"; Joe Torre: "Grote is a catcher who hits while Bench and Simmons are hitters who catch"; Tom Seaver: "He's the best catcher a pitcher could want to throw to." . . . Jerry Grote on Jerry Grote's intensity and disposition": I don't go on the field to win friends. I go out there to win ball games."

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1963-San Antonio (AA)	.268	121	384	50	103	22	5	14	62	55	126	2
1963-Houston (NL)	.200	3	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	0
1964-Houston (NL)	.181	100	298	26	54	9	3	3	24	20	75	0
1965-Oklahoma City (AAA) ..	.265	118	374	43	99	23	1	11	47	45	100	0
1966-Mets (NL)	.237	120	317	26	75	12	2	3	31	40	81	4
1967-Mets (NL)	.195	120	344	25	67	8	0	4	23	14	65	2
1968-Mets (NL)	.282	124	404	29	114	18	0	3	31	44	81	1
1969-Mets (NL)	.252	113	365	38	92	12	3	6	40	32	59	2
1970-Mets (NL)	.255	126	415	38	106	14	1	2	34	36	39	2
1971-Mets (NL)	.270	125	403	35	109	25	0	2	35	40	47	1
1972-Mets (NL)	.210	64	205	15	43	5	1	3	21	26	27	1
1973-Mets (NL)	.256	84	285	17	73	10	2	1	32	13	23	0
1974-Mets (NL)	.257	97	319	25	82	8	1	5	36	33	33	0
1975-Mets (NL)	.295	119	386	28	114	14	5	2	39	38	23	0
Major League Totals	.248	1195	3746	302	930	135	18	34	347	337	556	13



Reknowned skills of Jerry Grote are aptly illustrated here as he blocks plate perfectly to prevent Pete La-Cock of Cubs from scoring. John McSherry's umpire.

Mike Phillips

BORN: Aug. 19, 1950, Beaumont, Tex.

HT: 6-0; WT: 175;

Mike Phillips

1975: May very well have been Mets' MVP—Most Valuable Pickup, that is—right out of Hollywood script: scheduled for reassignment to Tidewater upon acquisition from Giants, was waiting for clearance of waiver period when Bud Harrelson knee injury granted nim emergency opportunity—which he seized by taking over first string shortstop job and polling incredible 332,444 write-in All Star votes. . . Set club pace in triples (7) and contributed 12-game hitting streak (June 7-18).

Had been claimed by Mets year earlier but was withdrawn from waiver list by SF. . . Giants' first pick in 1969 free agent draft after outstanding Texas scholastic career highlighted by All State and prep All American shortstop honors; also sparkled in basketball & quarterbacked football team. . . . Survived several serious injuries in pro ball; 1971 shoulder separation sidelined him more than two months at Fresno; accidental 1972 beaning at Phoenix prompted necessity of wearing ear-flapped helmet which saved career after Al Hrabosky pitch struck him in same temple area few months later in Mexican Winter League.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1969-Great Falls (Rookie)	.216	55	167	23	36	9	1	0	18	11	20	2
1970-Fresno(A)	.248	94	318	26	79	7	3	3	21	18	69	7
1971-Amarillo(AA)	.233	89	347	45	81	15	6	2	22	26	34	1
1972-Phoenix(AAA)	.248	114	375	57	93	17	7	0	32	36	42	7
1973-Phoenix(AAA)	.250	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1973-San Francisco(NL)	.240	63	104	18	25	3	4	1	9	6	17	0
1974-San Francisco(NL)	.219	100	283	19	62	6	1	2	20	14	37	4
1975-SF-Mets (NL)	.251	126	414	34	104	10	7	1	29	31	51	4
Major League Totals	.238	289	801	71	191	19	12	4	58	51	105	8

1975 METS GAME-WINNING RBI

Kingman, 20; Staub, 8; Kranepool, 7; Grote, Millan, Phillips and Torre, 5 each; Garrett, Unser and Vail, 4 each; Milner, 3; Heidemann, 2; Alou, Hodges and Koosman, 1 each.

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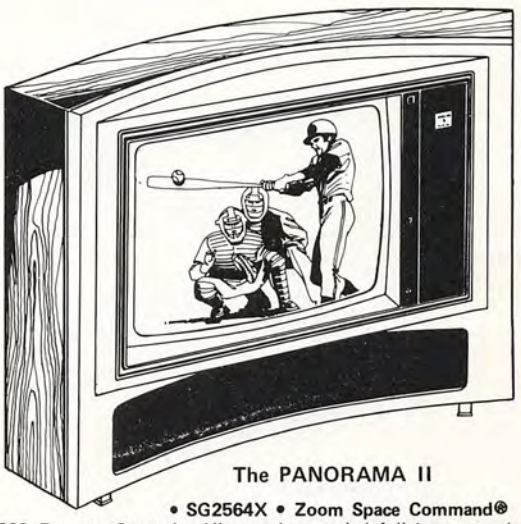

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LOLICH, Michael Stephen "Mickey"

BORN: Sept. 12, 1940, (35), Portland, Ore. HT: 6-0; WT: 215;

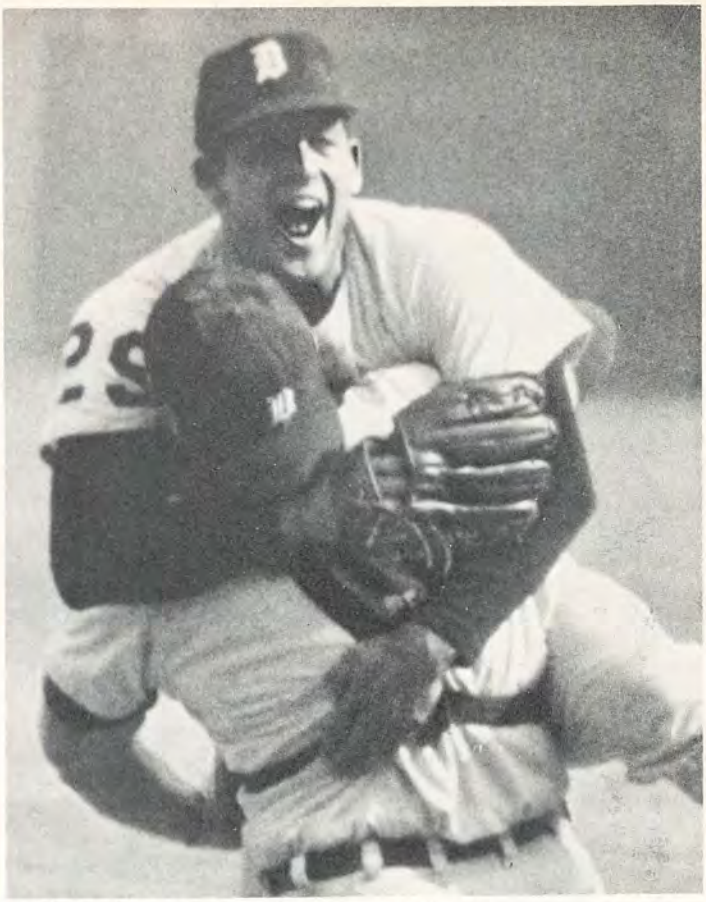
BATS: R; THROWS: L; RESIDENCE: Washington, Mich.

ACQUIRED: From Detroit with Billy Baldwin for Rusty Staub and Bill Laxton, Dec. 12, 1975.

1975: As "10 & 5" veteran, exercised right of refusal on Rusty Staub deal until Donald Grant and Joe McDonald broke down resistance four hours before inter-league trading deadline expired at winter meetings. . . . Wound up 13-year Detroit career as all time strikeout leader among lefthanders in major league history with 2679; had eclipsed Warren Spahn's record June 6 in Oakland by fanning Reggie Jackson for No. 2584, and trails only right-handers Walter Johnson (3508), Bob Gibson (3117), Jim Bunning (2855) & Cy Young (2819). . . Got off to 3-0 start, beating Catfish Hunter twice and blanking Luis Tiant, 1-0; shutout his only one & represented 39th career effort (compared to Gibson's all time high 56) and surpassed among active pitchers only by 40 of Claude Osteen and Don Sutton. . . Hurled 241 innings (after string of four 300-plus campaigns) and lifetime total of 3363 exceeded among active players only by Jim Kaat's 3636, Gaylord Perry's 3610 & Osteen's 3459. . . Dozen victories raised career total to 207, topped among current pitchers only by Kaat's 235 and Gaylord Perry's 216. . . Completed 19 starts for lifetime 190 excelled among current pitchers only by Gaylord Perry's 236 & Fergy Jenkins' 200. . . Was 10-5 on July 11, when dropped 13 of next 14 decisions, with Tigers giving him total of 11 runs in the 13 defeats, marked by seven shutouts and five other occasions when he received one run!

Natural righthander until accident as 3-year-old resulted in triple fracture of left collar bone, necessitating exercise program designed to restore left shoulder mobility; had ridden tricycle into parked motorcycle, which fell on him. . . Signed by Detroit as 17-year-old bonus baby for reported $30,000 in June of 1958, but didn't turn in winning professional season until 1964, when was 18-9 with six shutouts, for Tigers. . . Thereafter enjoyed only modest success until last half of 1967 campaign: after going 84 days without victory, abruptly turned "Woolworth" 5-10 record into 14-13 log, winding up season with scoreless string of 28.2 innings. . . In '68 was struggling at 7-7 when sent into bullpen, Aug. 2, and chalked up four victories in one week of relief to regain starting status; kept rolling right into World Series against Cardinals, emerging as Toast of Town with three triumphs, including 4-1 decision over Bob Gibson in deciding game, to earn Outstanding Player Award. . . Twice in '69 set 16-strikeout club records (against Angels & Seattle) while packing 9-game streak into 19 wins. . . . Literally went from ridiculous to sublime next two years: AL's biggest loser of 1970 with 19 setbacks; but rebounded spectacularly in '71, when led majors in wins (25), strikeouts (308), starts (45) & innings (376—most in 55 years in big leagues). . . Added another 22 wins in 1972, when gained third All Star berth, was AL runner-up in strikeouts, complete games & starts, and tossed 1.42 ERA at Oakland in two starts, covering 19 innings, of Championship Series.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1959-Knoxville (A)	3-6	2.55	11	11	2	67	51	29	19	53	42
1959-Durham (B)	1-2	4.14	9	8	1	37	27	22	17	45	24
1960-Knoxville (A)	0-1	7.63	4	0	0	15	17	13	13	14	20
1960-Durham (B)	5-10	4.07	25	16	3	113	111	71	51	87	135
1961-Knoxville (A)	3-5	5.10	15	9	3	72	49	50	41	76	93
1961-Durham (B)	5-5	2.99	18	15	3	102	92	42	34	73	102
1962-Denver (AAA)	0-4	16.50	9	4	0	12	26	24	22	10	10
1962-Portland (AAA)	10-9	3.95	23	19	5	130	116	66	57	57	138
1963-Syracuse (AAA)	0-2	2.45	6	3	0	22	21	11	6	10	21
1963-Detroit (AL)	5-9	3.56	33	18	4	144	145	64	57	56	103
1964-Detroit (AL)	18-9	3.26	44	33	12	232	196	88	84	64	192
1965-Detroit (AL)	15-9	3.43	43	37	7	244	216	103	93	72	226
1966-Detroit (AL)	14-14	4.76	40	33	5	204	204	119	108	83	173
1967-Detroit (AL)	14-13	3.04	31	30	11	204	165	71	69	56	174
1968-Detroit (AL)	17-9	3.19	39	32	8	220	178	84	78	65	197
1969-Detroit (AL)	19-11	3.14	37	36	15	281	214	111	98	122	271
1970-Detroit (AL)	14-19	3.79	40	39	13	273	272	125	115	109	230
1971-Detroit (AL)	25-14	2.92	45	45	29	376	336	133	122	92	308
1972-Detroit (AL)	22-14	2.50	41	41	23	327	282	100	91	74	250
1973-Detroit (AL)	16-15	3.82	42	42	17	309	315	143	131	79	214
1974-Detroit (AL)	16-21	4.15	41	41	27	308	310	155	142	78	202
1975-Detroit (AL)	12-18	3.77	32	32	19	241	260	119	101	64	139
Major League Totals	207-175	3.45	508	459	190	3363	3093	1415	1289	1014	2679

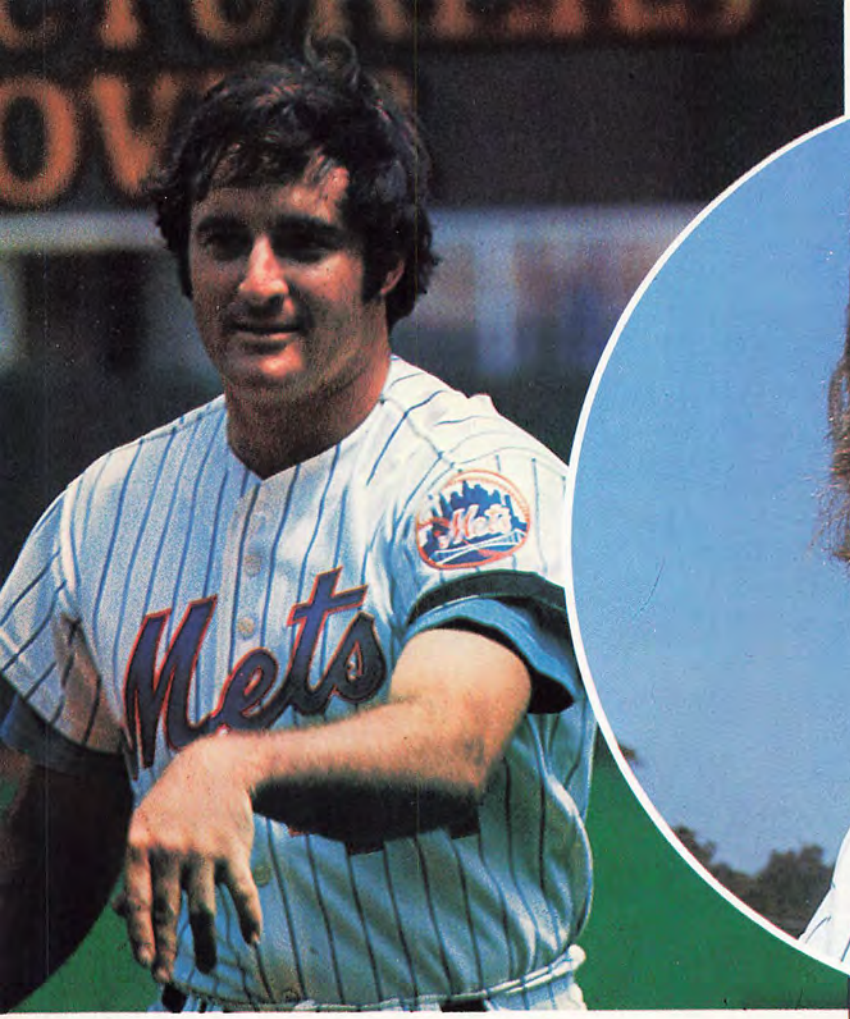


ONE PICTURE is worth 1000 words, they say, and this one was taken a moment after Mickey Lolich's third victory of 1968 World Series in seventh game against Cardinals. Bill Freehan's the smothered catcher of joy.

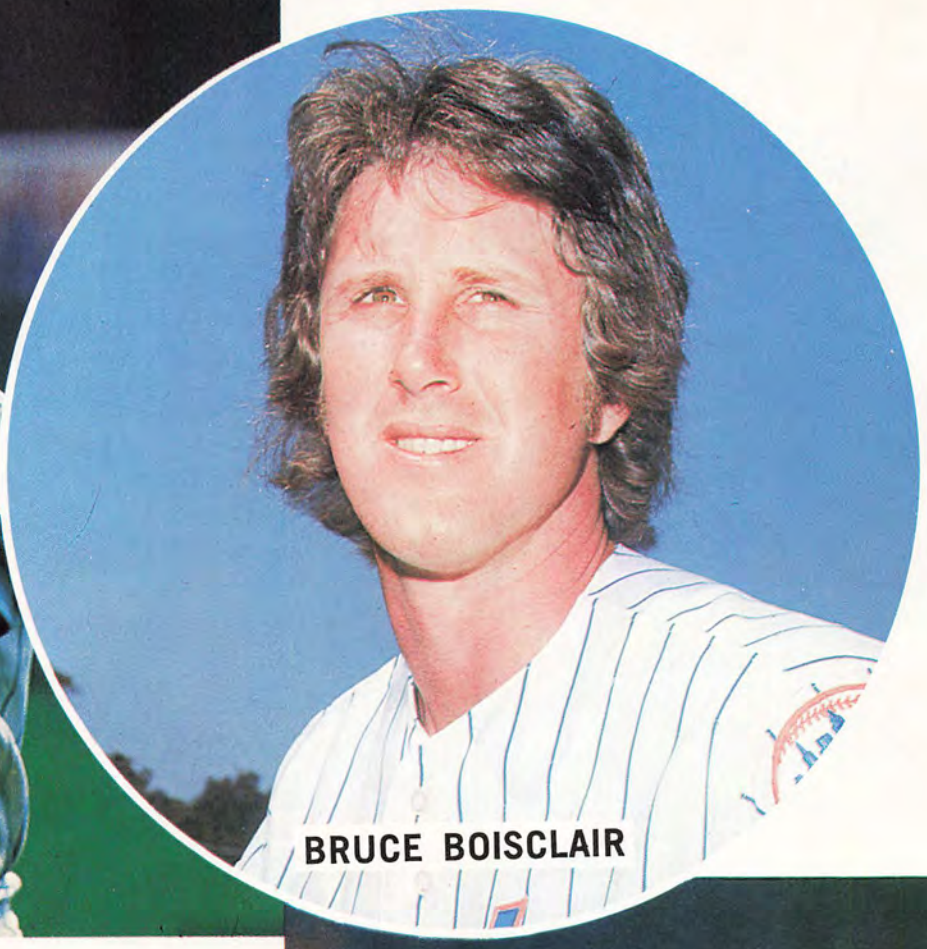
Kits and boodle: Mets are in good hands in training room when they submit to ministrations of veterans Joe Deer and Tom McKenna, well-stocked with their stocks in trade.

Mickey and frau Joyce with souvenirs of Tiger triumphs.

MICKEY LOLICH



BOB MYRICK



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(Security Chief)

TOM MEEHAN
(Stadium Operations)

JOHN McCARTHY
(Stadium Operations)

Bob Apodaca

Bob Apodaca

BORN: Jan. 31, 1950, Los Angeles, Cal.
HT: 5-11; WT: 170;

1975: Staff leader in saves (13) despite mising 37 days of regular season in two turns on disabled list. Sidelined until April 18 with elbow inflammation suffered in spring training; then sustained compound nose fracture, concussion and facial laceration requiring 14 stitches June 29 when Johnny Oates' one-hopper struck him in second game of twin bill against Phlles and idled him until July 27. . . Picked up four saves working five times during a May 20-28 stretch over which he hurled 7⅔ scoreless innings. . . Recorded saves in five of Jon Matlack's 16 wins.

After winning all state recognition as high school third baseman, was converted to pitcher in 1968 at Cerritos Junior College by coach Wally Kincaid; transferred to California State, where was named MVP as senior and then led South Dakota Basin League in victories with nine, only to be completely by-passed in 1970 free agent draft. . . Rapidly developed into farm system's brightest relief prospect and forced way onto 1974 varsity on strength of 0.50 ERA in seven spring appearances and 18 innings. . . Pressed into service as starter May 13, 1974, and marked occasion by achieving first major league win at expense of Bob Gibson; had to retire after five innings with skin tear of finger that hampered him remainder of season. . . Spent last autumn in New York making personal appearances for Mets and will become local resident this year after moving into Sea Cliff (L.I.) home at end of spring training.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1971-Visalia (A)	7-1	3.60	13	8	4	70	62	28	28	16	52
1972-Memphis (AA)	11-7	2.81	30	16	8	157	145	61	49	40	125
1973-Tidewater (AAA)	6-3	1.80	34	3	3	80	63	20	16	28	45
1973-Mets (NL)	0-0	——	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0
1974-Mets (NL)	6-6	3.50	35	8	1	103	92	47	40	42	54
1975-Mets (NL)	3-4	1.48	46	0	0	85	66	18	14	28	45
Major League Totals	9-10	2.63	82	8	1	188	158	66	55	72	99

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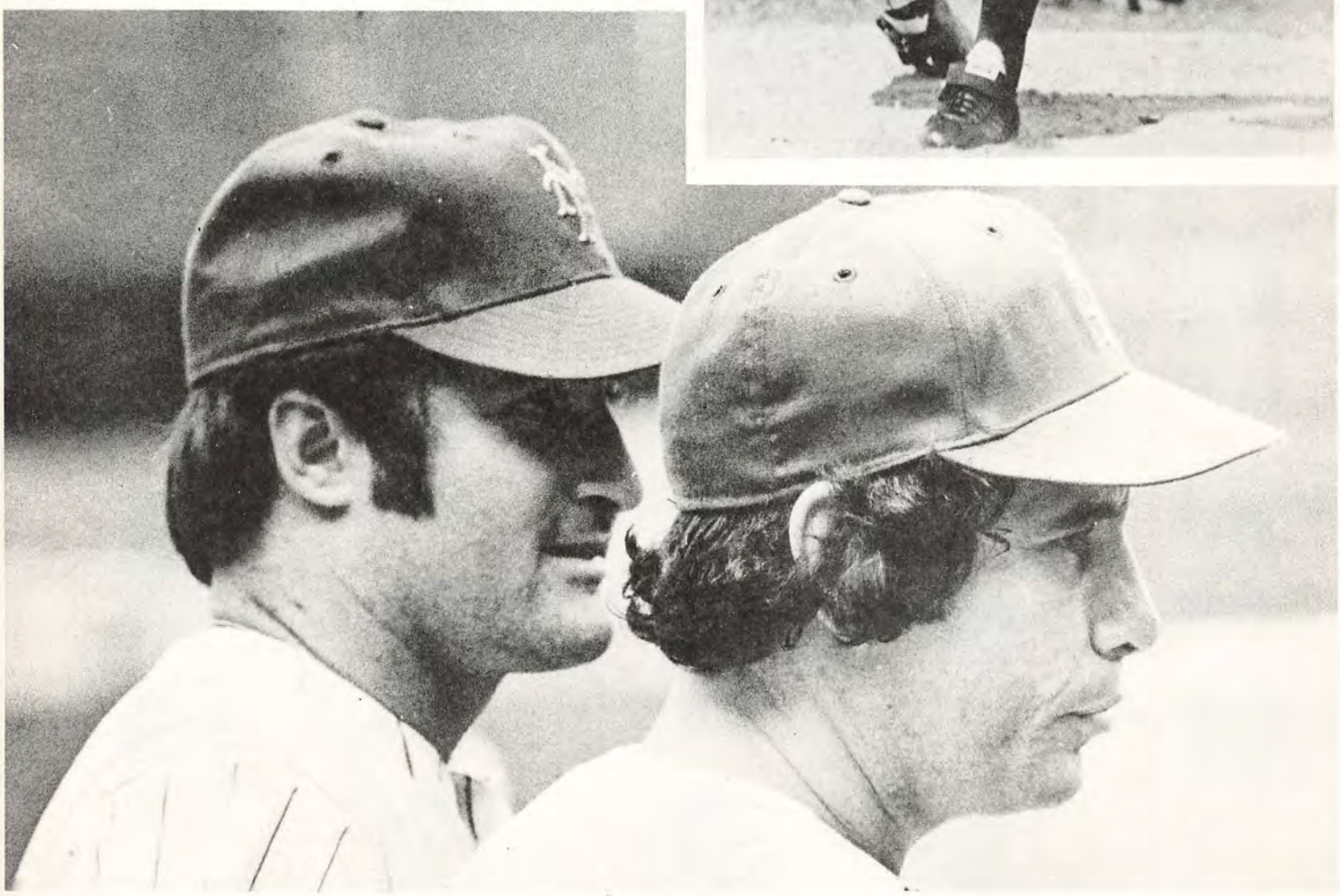
on relief: lefty Bob Myrick and righty Bob Apodaca



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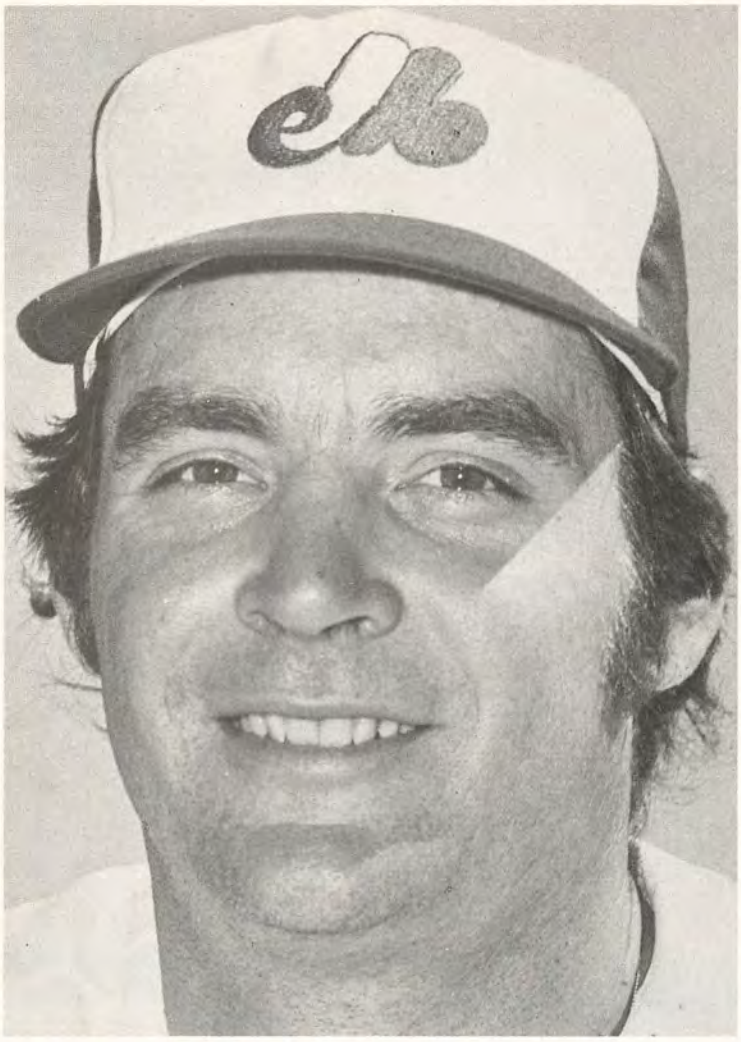

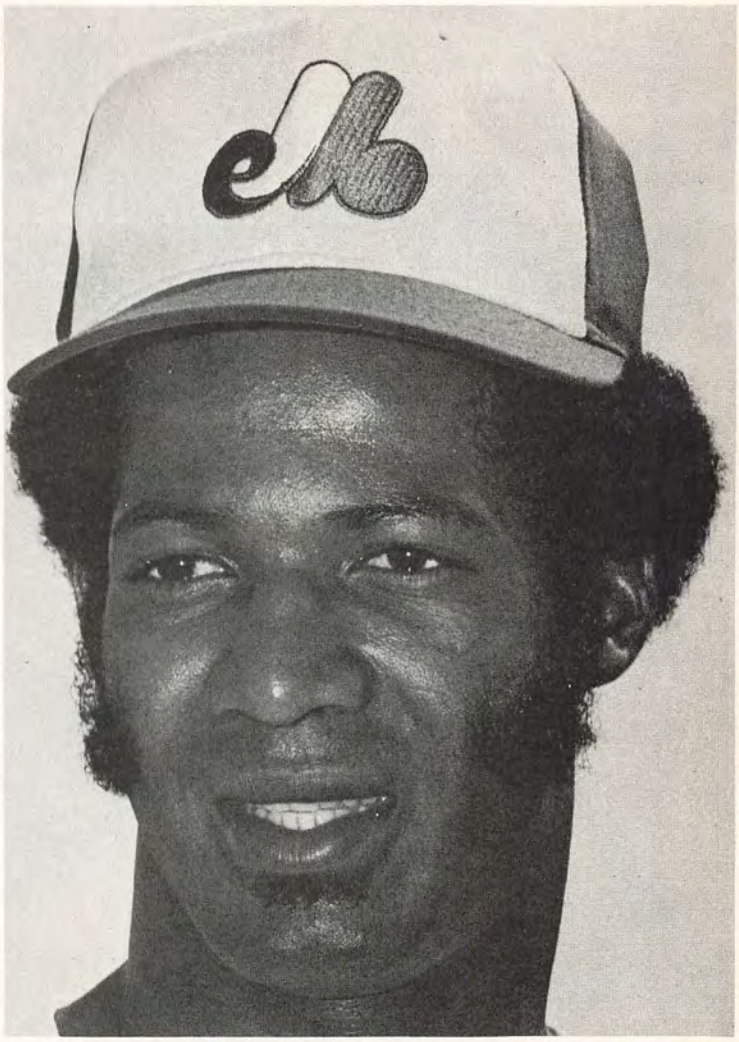

DWYER, James Edward

BORN: Jan. 3, 1950, (26), Evergreen, Ill. HT: 5-10; WT: 175;

BATS: L; THROWS: L; RESIDENCE: Chicago, Ill.

ACQUIRED: From Montreal with Pepe Mangual for Wayne Garrett and Del Unser, July 21, 1976.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1971-Cedar Rapids (A)	.313	58	201	30	63	6	6	2	15	28	20	3
1972-Modesto (A)	.325	92	354	87	115	15	13	9	45	57	53	21
1972-Little Rock (AA)	.253	44	162	16	41	1	0	2	14	16	23	4
1973-Tulsa (AAA)	.387	87	349	63	135	22	8	1	40	52	53	7
1973-St. Louis (NL)	.193	28	57	7	11	1	1	0	0	1	5	0
1974-Tulsa (AAA)	.336	36	119	20	40	7	2	1	15	29	10	1
1974-St. Louis (NL)	.279	74	86	13	24	1	0	2	11	11	16	0
1975-St. Louis-Montreal (NL)	.272	81	206	26	56	8	1	3	21	27	36	4
1975-Tulsa (AAA)	.404	33	109	17	44	8	2	1	17	16	15	1
Major League Totals	.261	183	349	46	91	10	2	5	32	39	57	4

MANGUAL, Jose Manuel 'Pepe'

BORN: May 23, 1952, (24), Ponce, P.R. HT: 5-9; WT: 165;

BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Ponce

ACQUIRED: From Montreal with Jim Dwyer for Wayne Garrett and Del Unser, July 21, 1976.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1970-West Palm Beach (A) .	.330	124	415	73	137	18	18	4	69	82	87	15
1971-Quebec (AA)	.279	140	463	80	129	14	8	20	67	90	124	10
1972-Peninsula (AAA)	.261	144	532	91	139	25	8	16	57	72	118	39
1972-Montreal (NL)	.273	8	11	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	5	0
1973-Peninsula (AAA)	.259	91	309	50	80	18	4	9	39	38	67	13
1973-Montreal (NL)	.177	33	62	9	11	2	1	3	7	6	18	2
1974-Memphis (AAA)	.292	120	445	85	130	22	3	17	56	72	90	46
1974-Montreal (NL)	.311	23	61	10	19	3	0	0	4	5	15	5
1975-Montreal (NL)	.245	140	514	84	126	16	2	9	45	74	115	33
Major League Totals	.245	204	648	105	159	21	3	12	56	86	153	40

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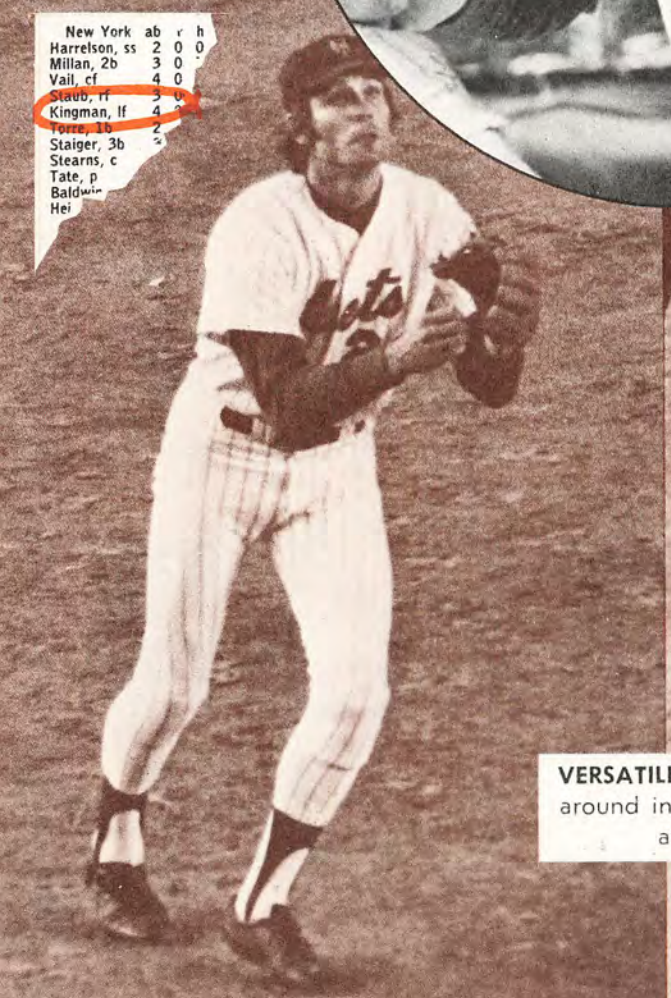
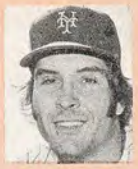


VERSATILITY: Dave Kingman moves his glove around in addition to his bat. Here he works at first, third and in left field.

Dave Kingman



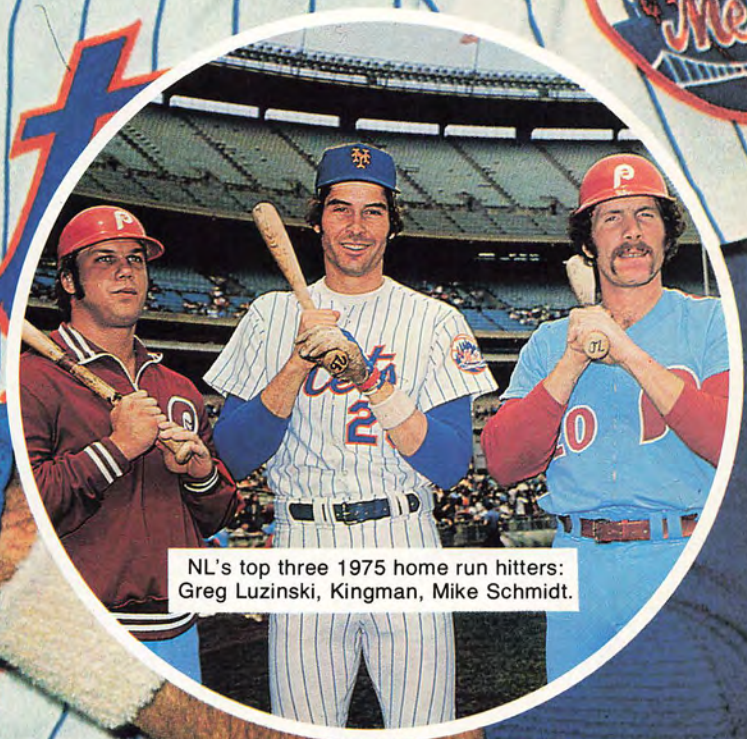
BORN: Dec. 21, 1948, Pendelton, Ore.
HT: 6-6; WT: 210;

1975: Biggest (physically & financially) bargain purchase in Met history responded to first full campaign with awesome display of power that provided hungry Shea buffs with first genuine contender for home run crown. . . Total of pro career high 36 circuits erased 1962 (Polo Grounds) club record of Frank Thomas, and was surpassed in majors only by Mike Schmidt's 38, matching production of George Scott & Reggie Jackson. . . Opportunity to play every day opened in training camp while Cleon Jones was slow recovering from knee surgery, and proceeded to make himself talk of Florida wth eight king-sized homers—including Ft. Lauderdale tape job off Catfish Hunter which made Mickey Mantle gasp: "I've never seen one hit further!" . . . Went on July spree that added up to 13 homers, 31 RBI & .322 average over 31-game period, and earned Player-of-Month honors; assault also wiped out Tommie Agee's June, 1970, club record of 11 circuits in one month. . . Set Met game-winning RBI pace with 20 (compared to Rusty Staub's runner-up eight); collected fourth career Grand Slam in opener of Aug. 24 Candlestick twin bill, against former USC teammate Jim Barr. . . Tormented Pirates with eight home runs (seven in Three Rivers Stadium). . . Three times poled two round-trippers in one game. . . Saw service in 71 games in outfield, 58 at first & 12 at third. . . Turned over to batting instructor Phil Cavarretta upon reporting for spring training and learned to relax under tutelage of former NL batting champion, who got him to shorten & level the swing Bobby Bonds said would in a few years make Kingman "the next man to hit 60 home runs."

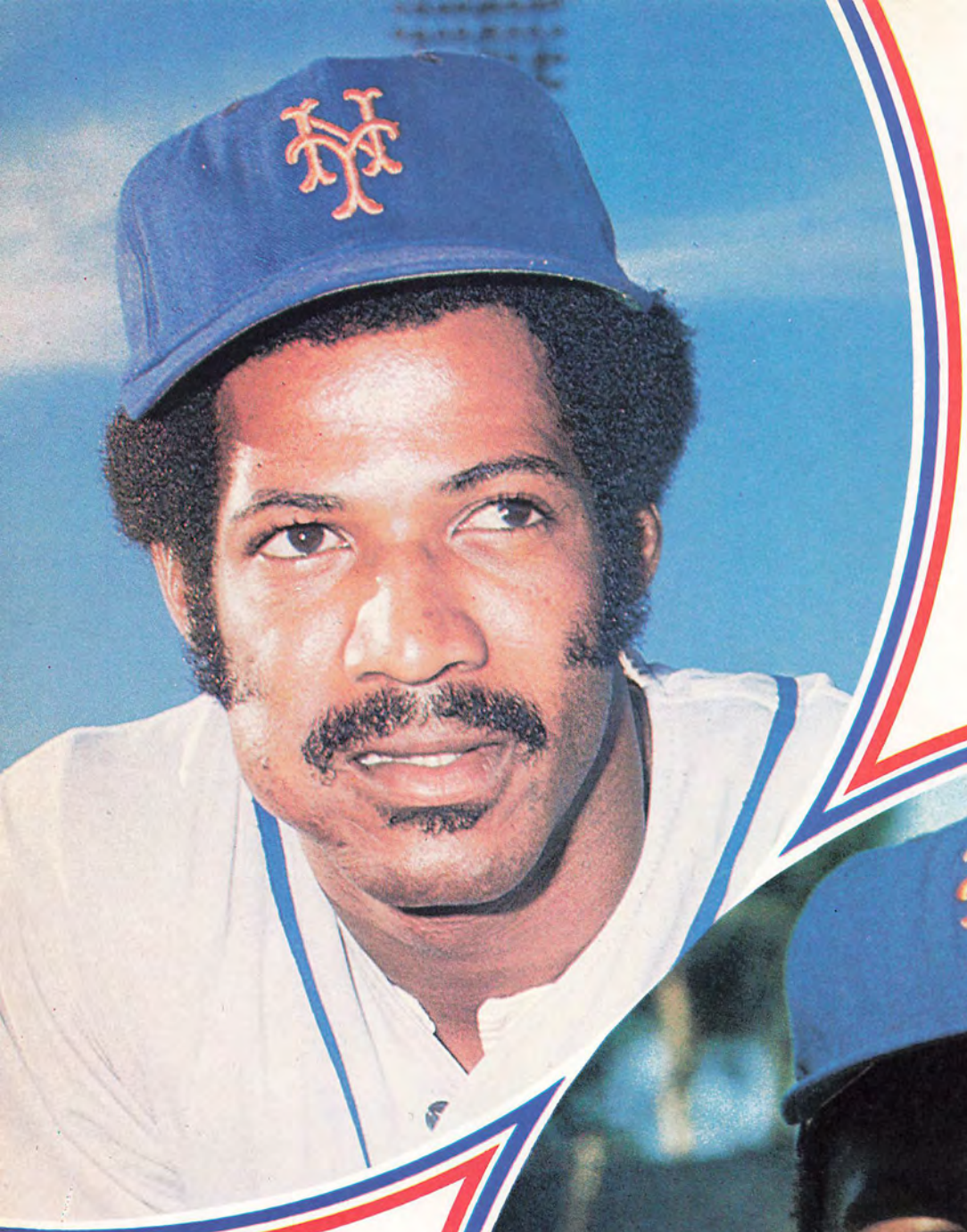
Selected by Angels (as pitcher) in June, 1967, free agent draft after brilliant diamond & basketball career at Mt. Prospect (Ill.) HS, and tapped by Orioles in Jan. 1968, secondary phase after attending Harper (Ill.) Junior College for one semester; however, elected to transfer to USC, where first varsity season resulted in 11-4 record and 1.38 ERA on mound, and .353 batting average with eight home runs & 26 RBI in 32 games; missed first half of season with fractured right arm & torn knee, coming back to team with Jim Barr as 1-2 punch that led Trojans to College World Series title. . . Giants made him first pick in June 1970, secondary phase of draft (when Casey Stengel had him tabbed No. 1 for Mets). . . Literally broke into majors with bang: Grand Slam off Dave Giusti in first start, July 31, 1971; followed with two circuits off Dock Ellis next day. . . Led Giants in homers & RBI while stealing 18 bases in 1972, when also hit for cycle against Houston in second game of season. . . Pitched four innings in two appearances for 1973 Giants. . . United Airlines sales rep during off-season.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1970-Amarillo (AA)	.295	60	210	41	62	9	1	15	41	37	64	3
1971-Phoenix (AAA)	.278	105	392	89	109	29	5	26	99	32	105	11
1971-San Farncisco (NL) ..	.278	41	115	17	32	10	2	6	24	9	35	5
1972-San Francisco (NL) ..	.225	135	472	65	106	17	4	29	83	51	140	16
1973-San Francisco (NL) ..	.203	112	305	54	62	10	1	24	55	41	122	8
1974-San Francisco (NL) ..	.223	121	350	41	78	18	2	18	55	37	125	8
1975-Mets (NL)	.231	134	502	65	116	22	1	36	88	34	153	7
Major League Totals	.226	543	1744	242	394	77	10	113	305	172	575	44

DAVE KINGMAN



NL's top three 1975 home run hitters: Greg Luzinski, Kingman, Mike Schmidt.



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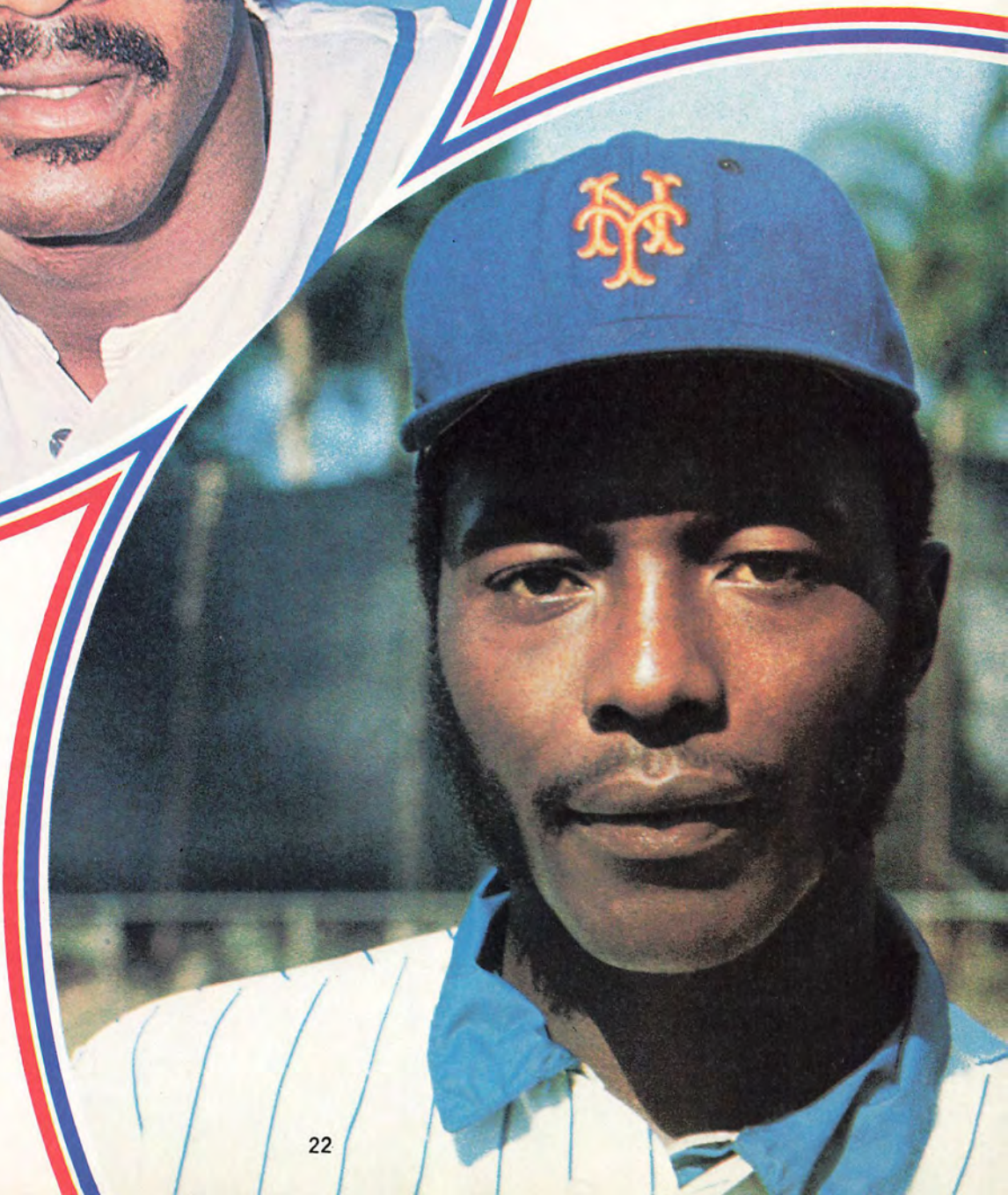

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FELIX MILLAN

The Foot vs The Glove: Base-stealing king Lou Brock of Cardinals is cut down by unyielding Millan.

Steve Sanders and proud papa before Kids-Dads game.

Ken Sanders

Ken Sanders

BORN: July 8, 1941, St. Louis, Mo.

HT: 5-11; WT: 185;

1975: Obtained by Tidewater affiliate from Angels' Salt Lake City farm for Ike Hampton, Mar. 22; accumulated nine saves in 27 appearances for Tides (and three wins and a save in May 26-June 4 four-game stretch) before purchased by Mets June 24 after Harry Parker was disabled. . . First of five Met saves (all on road) coincided with 34th birthday, July 8, in Atlanta. . . Suffered ruptured vessel in right eye, disabling him for 21 days, in freak accident Aug. 10 when struck by Johnny Stearns return throw of warm-up toss.

Started only one of 374 games in majors (Aug. 27, 1966 for KC vs Angels). . . . With seven AL clubs after coming up to KC in 1964: drafted from Vancouver by Red Sox in 1965; traded back to KC, June 13, 1966; sent to Portland of PCL as part of six-player deal in which Oakland acquired Don Mincher from Seattle, Jan. 15, 1970; brought up by Milwaukee, May 30, 1970; dealt with Jim Lonborg, Ken Brett and Earl Stephenson to Phillies for Don Money, Billy Champion and John Vukovich, Oct. 31, 1972, but month later traded to Minnesota in deal for Cesar Tovar; waived to Cleveland, Aug. 3, 1973; released by Indians and signed by Salt Lake in June, 1974; purchased same month by Angels. . . Outstanding 1971 accomplishments with Milwaukee included league-leading figures for saves (31) and appearances (83) and a then major league season record of 77 games finished en route to "Fireman of Year" award.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1960-Sanford (D)	19-10	3.22	34	28	22	241	209	107	86	83	191
1961-Portsmouth (A)	13-8	3.96	32	22	8	166	157	90	73	66	84
1962-Portland (AAA)	0-4	6.00	7	5	1	24	26	18	16	13	9
1962-Albuquerque (AA)	0-3	14.79	6	3	1	14	35	24	23	4	4
1962-Binghamton (A)	3-11	4.02	25	13	6	121	137	74	54	39	66
1963-Nashville (AA)	1-1	3.72	7	3	1	29	36	15	12	9	13
1963-Binghamton (AA)	5-6	3.63	28	12	6	119	115	61	48	46	74
1964-Birmingham (AA)	9-1	2.28	41	0	0	75	66	23	19	33	67
1964-Kansas City (AL)	0-2	3.67	21	0	0	27	23	12	11	17	18
1965-Vancouver (AAA)	8-6	2.74	57	0	0	92	75	29	28	51	63
1966-Boston-KC (AL)	6-10	3.74	62	1	0	113	95	50	47	76	74
1967-Vancouver (AAA)	9-6	2.04	50	0	0	84	75	25	19	14	68
1968-Vancouver (AAA)	2-4	3.41	35	0	0	58	53	24	22	16	43
1968-Oakland (AL)	0-1	3.27	7	0	0	11	8	5	4	8	6
1969-Iowa (AAA)	6-7	3.39	29	10	5	114	117	55	43	34	49
1970-Portland (AAA)	4-1	1.06	14	0	0	34	21	5	4	10	21
1970-Milwaukee (AL)	5-2	1.76	50	0	0	92	64	19	18	25	64
1971-Milwaukee (AL)	7-12	1.92	83	0	0	136	111	35	29	34	80
1972-Milwaukee (AL)	2-9	3.13	62	0	0	92	88	38	32	31	51
1973-Minn-Cleve (AL)	7-5	4.38	42	0	0	72	71	37	35	30	33
1974-Cleve-Cal (AL)	0-1	6.43	18	0	0	21	31	17	15	8	8
1974-Salt Lake City (AAA)	3-1	3.44	19	2	0	34	37	15	13	13	22
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	6-1	1.34	27	0	0	47	39	9	7	8	28
1975-Mets (NL)	1-1	2.30	29	0	0	43	31	11	11	14	8
Major League Totals	28-43	3.00	374	1	0	607	522	224	202	243	342

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(Eleventh Annual Edition)

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—Jon Matlack, New York Mets

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—Al Hrabosky, St. Louis Cardinals

"Baseball-For-Fans has done what no other publisher has been able to do. They have set the record straight with a really probing analysis of pitcher performance."
—Jim Rooker, Pittsburgh Pirates

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—Phil Niekro, Atlanta Braves

"Made me aware of the real factors that influence performance. I look forward to reading (and learning from) each new edition."
—Bob Apodaca, New York Mets

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—Tug McGraw, Philadelphia Phillies

"Thanks to the HANDBOOK a pitcher can know how effective his pitching really is. The in-depth features are the greatest."
—Ken Brett, New York Yankees

Each edition of the HANDBOOK delivers over 130 pages of vital information on current Major League pitchers . . . Computers are used to "scout" performance . . . The data are converted into informative, provocative features . . . Powerful reports define everything from the pitching "stoppers" on each club to baseball's "hard luck" pitchers . . . From hard hitting comparative performance ratings to analyses of actual pitcher accomplishments, covering over 25 categories of 1975 performance and over 20 categories of lifetime performance . . . The types of pitches thrown by each pitcher . . . Features on starting pitcher consistency and relief pitcher dependability. And many, many more features and facts YOU CAN'T FIND ANYWHERE ELSE. Price $3. Pocket Size.

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Joe Torre

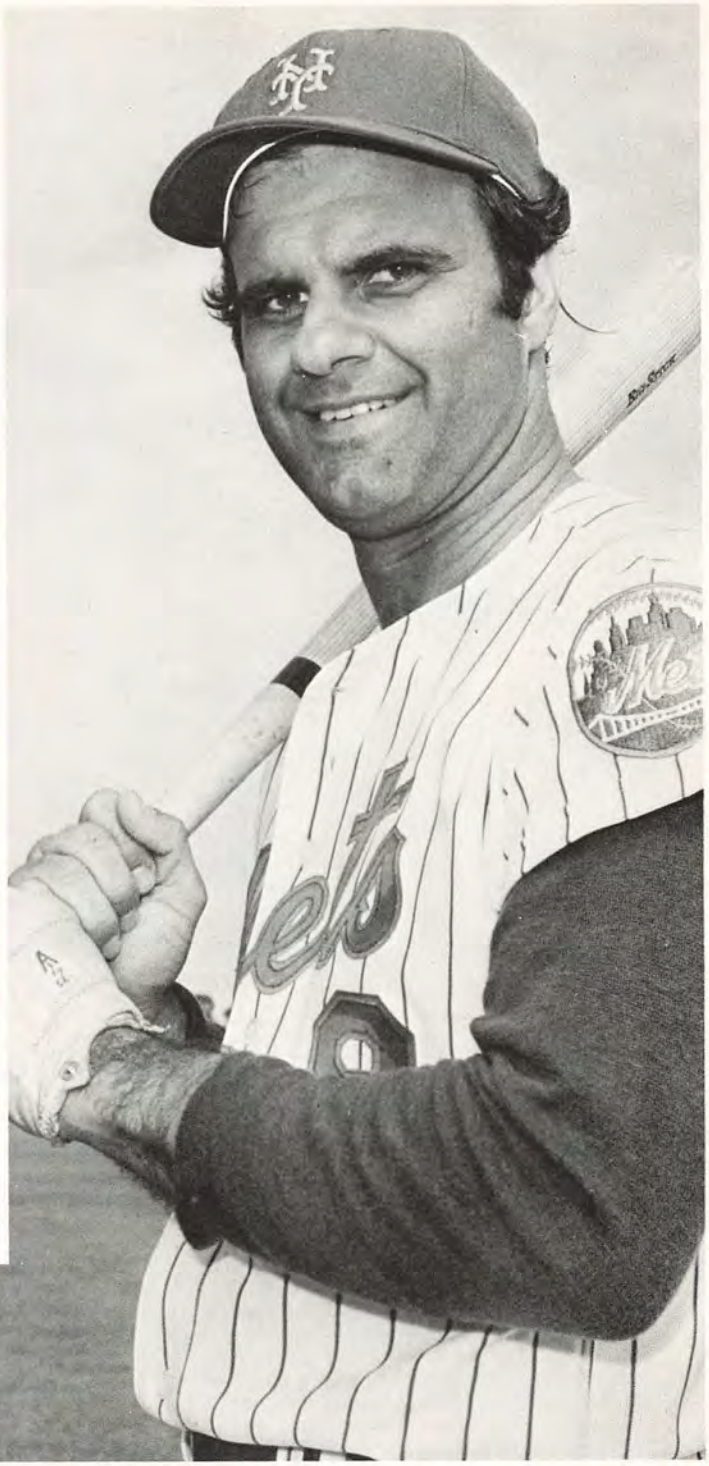
Joe Torre

BORN: July 18, 1940, Brooklyn, N.Y.
HT: 6-1, WT: 200;

1975: Made official Met debut in headline fashion with ninth-inning single off Steve Carlton that beat Phillies 2-1 on Opening Day; however, it represented one of few positive notes in campaign marked by all-time low .247 average, poorest RBI production (35) since 1962, and inner torment that made him consider retirement. . . Put together 16-game hitting streak May 24-June 9 that raised average 71 points to .285; reached 2000-game milestone June 15 against San Diego but took heavy lick on left elbow from Mike Ivie throw home in 2nd inning and went downhill shortly thereafter. . . Reached nadir July 21 at Shea, tying major league record by grounding into four double plays (after as many singles by Felix Millan); only Goose Goslin of 1934 Tigers & Mike Kreevich of 1939 White Sox had previously gained that dubious distinction. . . Brought .300 major league lifetime average and high hopes to Mets after spectacular Japanese tour with Shea troupe (.437 slugging & 18 RBI in as many games en route to tour MVP designation); but suffered spring training setback in freak accidnt during Ft. Lauderdale exhibition March 12: jammed his right ankle backing off third base bag trying to give Bobby Bonds access to area. . . Made 83 appearances at third & 24 at first, & was 22-for-5 pinch-hitting.

Pre-season 1976 plan was to use nine-time All Star primarily at first base after spurned minor league managing offer and decided to play again "in an effort to regain my pride"; embarked on rigorous Downtown A.C. winter conditioning program toward that end. . . Reached peak of brilliant career (spotlighted by All Star representation as catcher, third baseman & first baseman) in 1971, when extraordinary credentials resulted in MVP Award and included: league-leading stats in batting, RBI, hits & total bases (352); it marked first time NL player set pace in four batting departments since Stan Musial captured eight in 1948, and in preceding 35 years his total of 230 hits was surpassed only by Joe Medwick's 237 of 1937, Earl Averill's 232 of 1936 & Matty Alou's 231 of 1969. . . Moved from catcher to third base in 1970, playing position for first time since St. Francis Prep days of late Fifties, but operated primarily at first base after inflamed shoulder affected throwing in 1973. . . Came up to majors to stay after first 21 games of 1961 & finished second to Billy Williams in Rookie-of-Year balloting; took over as Milwaukee's varsity catcher after Del Crandall was traded to Giants in Dec. of 1963. . . Traded to Cardinals for Orlando Cepeda in spring training, Mar. 17, 1969, when Mets lost out in trade bid. . . Partner in sport equipment stores bearing his name. . . Brother Frank, former first baseman with Milwaukee & Phillies, vice-president of Rawlings Sporting Goods Co.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1960-Eau Claire (C)	.344	117	369	63	127	23	3	16	74	70	45	7
1960-Milwaukee (NL)	.500	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1961-Louisville (AAA)	.342	27	111	18	38	8	2	3	24	6	9	0
1961-Milwaukee (NL)	.278	113	406	40	113	21	4	10	42	28	60	3
1962-Milwaukee (NL)	.282	80	220	23	62	8	1	5	26	24	24	1
1963-Milwaukee (NL)	.293	142	501	57	147	19	4	14	71	42	79	1
1964-Milwaukee (NL)	.321	154	601	87	193	36	5	20	109	36	67	2
1965-Milwaukee (NL)	.291	148	523	68	152	21	1	27	80	61	79	0
1966-Atlanta (NL)	.315	148	546	83	172	20	3	36	101	60	61	0
1967-Atlanta (NL)	.277	135	477	67	132	18	1	20	68	49	75	2
1968-Atlanta (NL)	.271	115	424	45	115	11	2	10	55	34	72	1
1969-St. Louis (NL)	.289	159	602	72	174	29	6	18	101	66	85	0
1970-St. Louis (NL)	.325	161	624	89	203	27	9	21	100	70	91	2
1971-St. Louis (NL)	.363	161	634	97	230	34	8	24	137	63	70	4
1972-St. Louis (NL)	.289	149	544	71	157	26	6	11	81	54	64	3
1973-St. Louis (NL)	.287	141	519	67	149	17	2	13	69	65	78	2
1974-St. Louis (NL)	.282	147	529	59	149	28	1	11	70	69	88	1
1975-Mets (NL)	.247	114	361	33	89	16	3	6	35	35	55	0
Major League Totals	.298	2069	7513	958	2238	331	56	246	1145	756	1049	19



Veteran Torre settles down youngster Randy Tate.

TRAPP, Randolph Alvin "Randy"

BORN: Aug. 6, 1951, (24), Chicago, Ill. HT: 6-2; WT: 190;

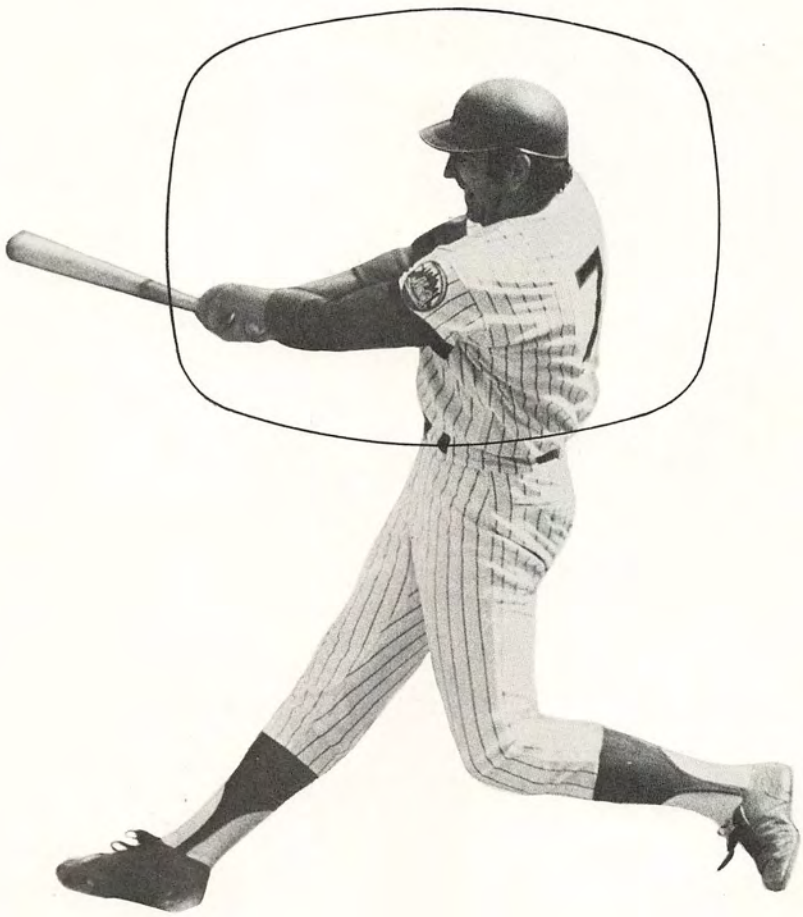
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Oak Lawn, Ill.

ACQUIRED: Mets' 24th selection in June, 1973, free agent draft. Signed by Charley Frey, June 8, 1973.

1975: One of organization's more highly regarded power products never got untracked; opened with Tidewater, sent to Jackson June 15 and rejoined Tides for playoffs and Little World Series. . . After accumulating 30 home runs in 198 games of first two pro campaigns, was limited to seven (all at Jackson) in 124. . . Reported after season to Florida Instructional League for outfield, in addition to third base service.

Lettered in baseball and swimming at Oak Lawn (Ill.) HS and then gained NAIA All Star honors in District & College Division tourneys at Eastern Illinois. . . 551st player selected in 1973 draft, broke into pro ball by winning NY-Penn League home run title, followed by Texas League All Star designation as third baseman at Victoria, where hit 18 homers, 31 doubles and drove in 79 runs.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1973-Batavia (A)	.308	63	227	42	70	10	2	12	44	25	42	8
1974-Victoria (AA)	.265	135	498	89	132	31	4	18	79	50	102	5
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.203	47	123	11	25	6	1	0	12	13	40	1
1975-Jackson (AA)	.257	77	261	50	67	16	2	7	38	46	32	5



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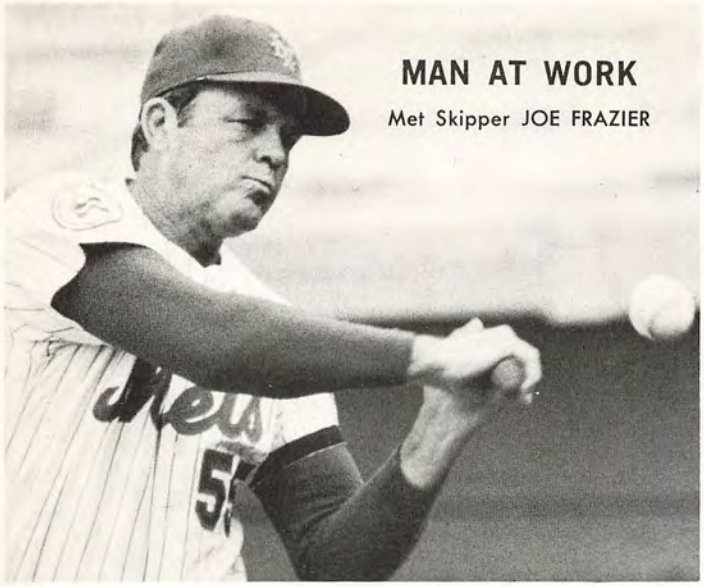


MAN AT WORK

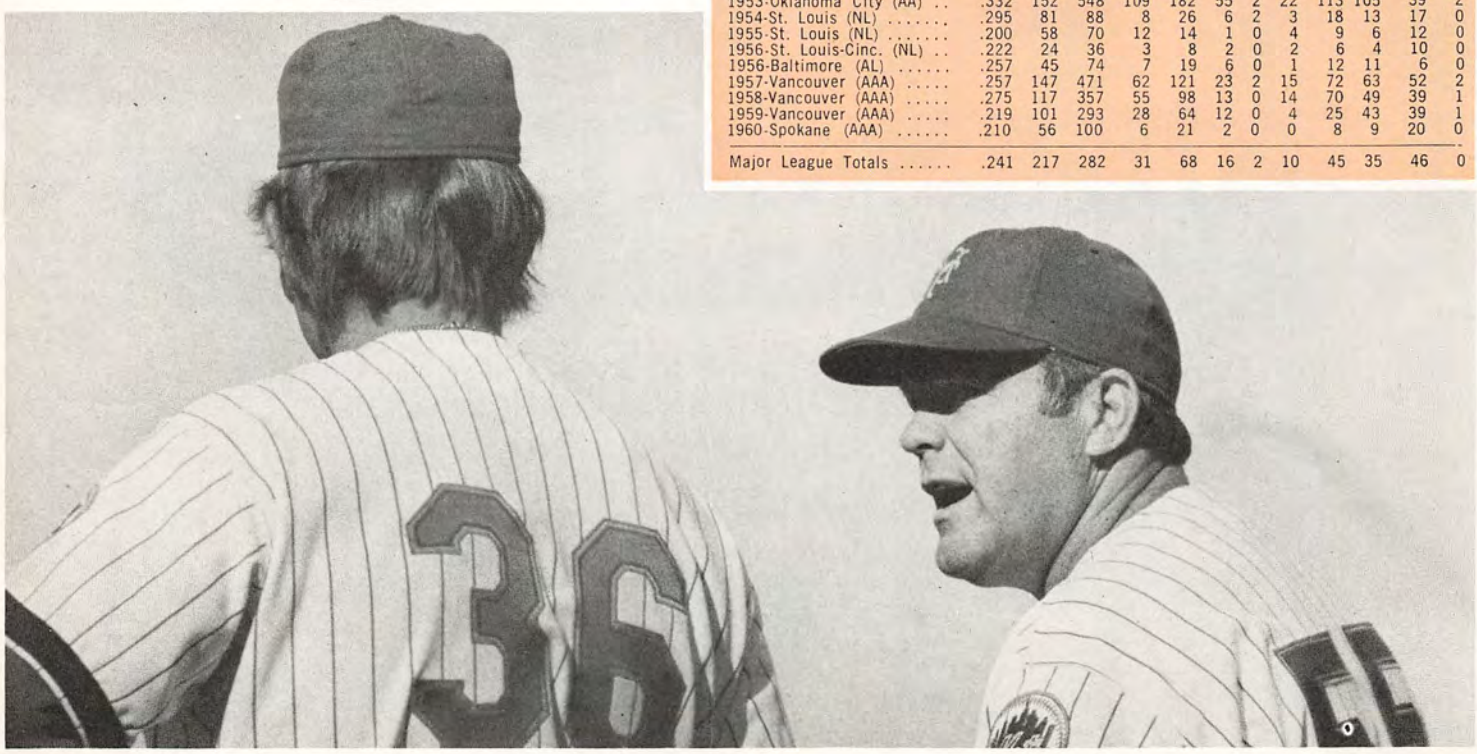
Met Skipper JOE FRAZIER

CAREER RECORD OF JOE FRAZIER

BORN: Oct. 6, 1922, (53), Liberty, N. C. **HT:** 6-0; **WT:** 200;

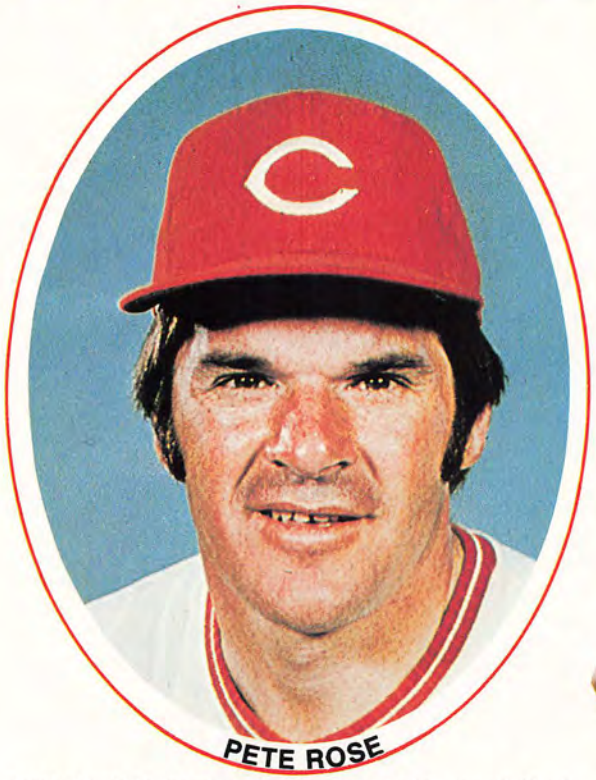
RESIDENCE: Tulsa, Okla. Former Outfielder

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1941-Leaksville (D)	.309	110	463	96	143	31	11	10	55	—	—	5
1942-Cedar Rapids (B)	.315	116	444	89	140	36	3	8	71	69	63	6
1943-44-45	(In Military Service)											
1946-Wilkes-Barre (A)	.300	135	503	82	151	25	8	6	91	69	51	8
1947-Oklahoma City (AA)	.276	133	471	69	130	27	5	5	66	63	37	8
1947-Cleveland (AL)	.071	9	14	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
1948-San Antonio (AA)	.267	139	472	86	126	24	8	9	57	84	55	11
1949-Baltimore (AAA)	.175	23	80	9	14	1	1	0	5	16	8	0
1949-San Antonio (AA)	.289	120	405	65	117	26	8	11	63	105	36	6
1950-San Antonio (AA)	.265	133	487	88	129	27	3	12	67	82	27	3
1951-San Antonio (AA)	.233	25	73	14	17	3	1	1	12	21	6	2
1951-Memphis (AA)	.269	113	394	67	106	26	6	13	86	82	50	6
1952-Oklahoma City (AA)	.294	156	574	82	169	48	1	14	93	79	34	0
1953-Oklahoma City (AA)	.332	152	548	109	182	55	2	22	113	105	39	2
1954-St. Louis (NL)	.295	81	88	8	26	6	2	3	18	13	17	0
1955-St. Louis (NL)	.200	58	70	12	14	1	0	4	9	6	12	0
1956-St. Louis-Cinc. (NL)	.222	24	36	3	8	2	0	2	6	4	10	0
1956-Baltimore (AL)	.257	45	74	7	19	6	0	1	12	11	6	0
1957-Vancouver (AAA)	.257	147	471	62	121	23	2	15	72	63	52	2
1958-Vancouver (AAA)	.275	117	357	55	98	13	0	14	70	49	39	1
1959-Vancouver (AAA)	.219	101	293	28	64	12	0	4	25	43	39	1
1960-Spokane (AAA)	.210	56	100	6	21	2	0	0	8	9	20	0
Major League Totals	.241	217	282	31	68	16	2	10	45	35	46	0



SUPER STARS OF SUPER SERIES

TONY PEREZ



PETE ROSE

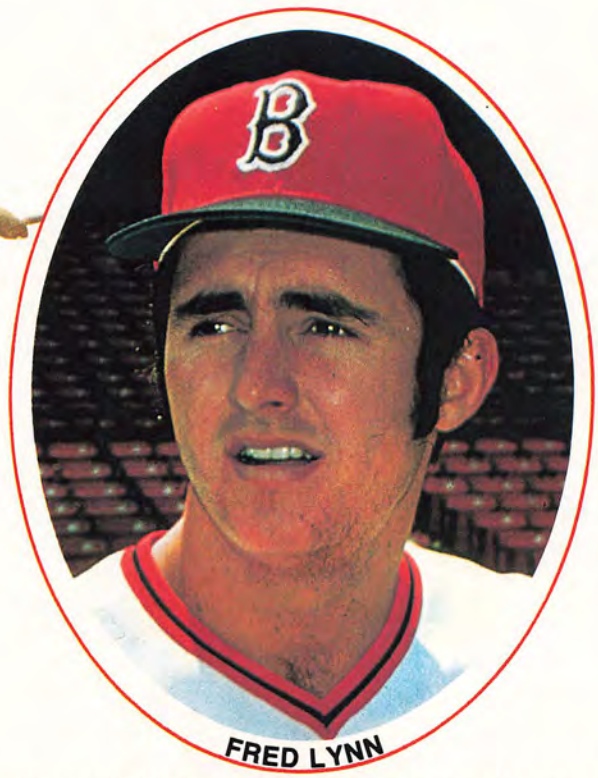
JOHNNY BENCH

JOE MORGAN

DON GULLETT

1975 World Series between Boston Red Sox and Cincinnati Reds developed into most dramatic and spectacular classic in history. Pete Rose, who won "Outstanding Player Award," is flanked here by a group of friends who earned title of World Champions after seven games.

CARLTON FISK



FRED LYNN

LUIS TIANT

CARL YASTRZEMSKI

DWIGHT EVANS

It was said there were no losers in the stirring 1975 World Series, and Fred Lynn, literally a center of attraction, won the respect of his peers as the star of a brilliant Boston cast. He was also later to win a remarkable "double" as the American League's Rookie-of-the-Year and its MVP.

JERRY GROTE

Catching on: Cardinals' Ted Simmons and Grote engage in shop talk.

*"Pine forests, rolling hills,
lakes and a house that rotates
to take it all in...
What more could you ask for?"*

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1975 ALL

1975 NATIONAL LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM — Front row (left to right): Joel Stoller, batboy; Johnny Bench, Steve Garvey, Reggie Smith, Gary Carter, Joe Morgan, Larry Bowa, Jeff Winter, batboy. **Second row:** Ron Cey, Dave Concepcion, Pete Rose, Al Oliver, Stan Musial, honorary captain; Red Schoendienst, coach; Walter Alston, manager; Danny Murtaugh, coach; Bill Madlock, Greg Luzinski, Lou Brock, Bobby Murcer. **Third row:** Don Sutton, Jim Wynn, Tony Perez, Bob Watson, Mike Marshall, Dave Cash, Jon Matlack, Randy Jones, Phil Niekro, Manny Sanguillen, Jerry Reuss, Tom Seaver. **Back row:** Jim Ksicinski, visiting clubhouse manager; Tom Dettore, BP pitcher; Ken Frailing, BP pitcher; Tug McGraw, Andy Messersmith, Mark Cresse, BP catcher; Bill Buhler.

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Mets' colors in July 1 were carried by Tom S (holding MVP trophy he Madlock). Big Jon rece umph. Other photos of Dennis Burke's camera give fans best in Year E

①Walter Alston; ②Randy Jones; ③Greg Luzinski, Tony Perez; ④Steve Garvey; ⑤Ron Cey, Lou Brock; ⑥Tug McGraw, Phil Niekro; ⑦Al Oliver; ⑧Bill Madlock, Dave Concepcion; ⑨Jerry Reuss, Johnny Bench; ⑩Pete Rose; ⑪Jimmy Wynn, Joe Morgan; ⑫Reggie Smith, Gary Carter; ⑬Bob Watson; ⑭Andy Messersmith, Tom Seaver, Don Sutton; ⑮Larry Bowa; ⑯Manny Sanguillen, Dave Cash

L STARS

1975 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM — Front row (left to right): Paul Lindblad, Joe Rudi, Hal McRae, Ken McBride, BP pitcher; Toby Harrah, George Scott. **Second row:** Graig Nettles, Gene Tenace, Jorge Orta, Bert Campaneris, Del Crandall, coach; Alvin Dark, manager; Billy Martin, coach; Bucky Dent, Thurman Munson, Dave Chalk, Claudell Washington. **Third row:** Jim Walton, BP pitcher; Reggie Jackson, Hank Aaron, Carl Yastrzemski, Fred Lynn, Nolan Ryan, Rod Carew, Mike Hargrove, Bobby Bonds, Wes Stock, BP pitcher, Tom Ferguson, vice-president of Brewers. **Back row:** Steve Busby, Bill Freehan, Rollie Fingers, Jim Kaat, Jim Palmer, Jim Hunter, George Hendrick, Rich Gossage. (Vida Blue is not in picture)

ASSIC"
YLE

mid-summer classic
aver and Jon Matlack
shared with Cubs' Bill
ved credit for NL tri-
ll Stars are product of
as Mets continue to
ook coverage.

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⑰ Fred Lynn, Claudell Washington; ⑱ Jorge Orta; ⑲ Graig Nettles, Gene Tenace; ⑳ George Scott, Bobby Bonds; ㉑ Alvin Dark; ㉒ Reggie Jackson; ㉓ Catfish Hunter, Jim Palmer, Nolan Ryan; ㉔ Thurman Munson; ㉕ Toby Harrah, Bucky Dent; ㉖ Rollie Fingers; ㉗ Rich Gossage, Steve Busby; ㉘ Jim Kaat; ㉙ Hank Aaron; ㉚ Bert Campaneris, Dave Chalk; ㉛ Joe Rudi; ㉜ Rod Carew

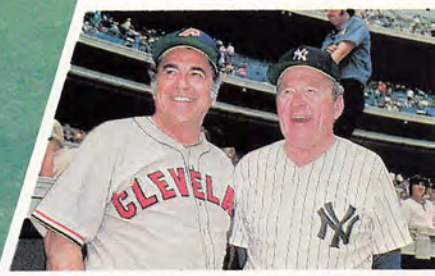
Oldtimers Day

(14th Annual Classic, June 28, 1975)

Hank Greenberg: All way from Bronx to Cooperstown.

Ralph Kiner: All way from Alhambra to Cooperstown.

Harvey Kuenn, Eddie Yost: Tiger reunion.



Ex-foes Lou Boudreau & Spud Chandler.

Don Schwall, Bob Grim and Harry Byrd recall episodes of American League pitching days.

One of most moving (and once-in-lifetime) photos in New York sports history: Willie Mays and Joe DiMaggio walking through centerfield gate to standing Shea Stadium ovation.

National Leaguers of fond memories: Speedy Sam Jethroe, Jim Konstanty, and Ken Boyer.

NY prides: Tom Seaver and Whitey Ford.

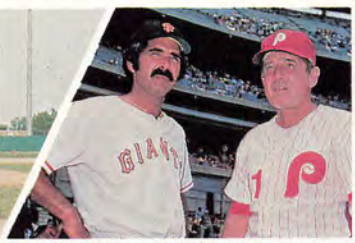
Old & new Hall of Famers: Joe DiMaggio & Judy Johnson

Our lovely Diamond Club girls decorate Mets salute to upcoming Bicentennial.

Former AL rivals, Dean Chance and Tom Tresh.

Artful Dodgers: Jim Gilliam, Peewee Reese.

Storied Ebbets Field battery: Roy Campanella & Joe Black.



Former Giants' pitching stalwarts Mike McCormick & Jack Sanford

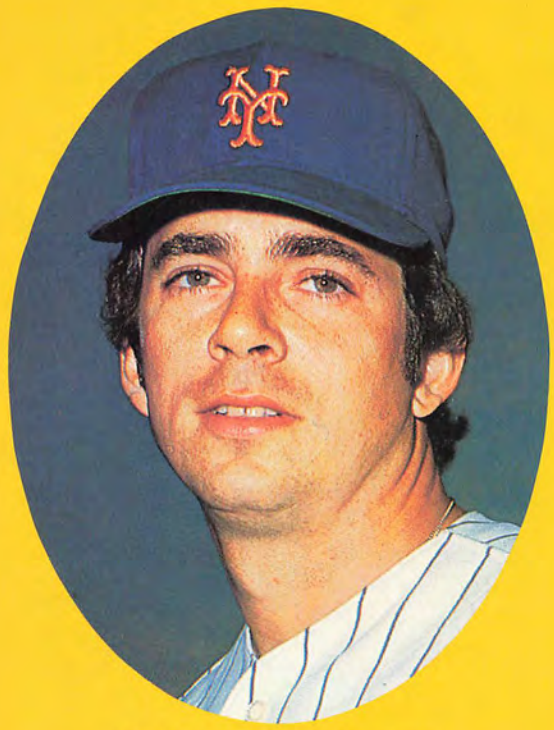
Orlando Cepeda and ex-Cincinnati first baseman Frank McCormick.

C.D. Stengel—indeed, the Noblest Roman of them all.

Wally Moon, Vernon Law, Phil Cavarretta and Roy McMillan of nostalgic NL competition.

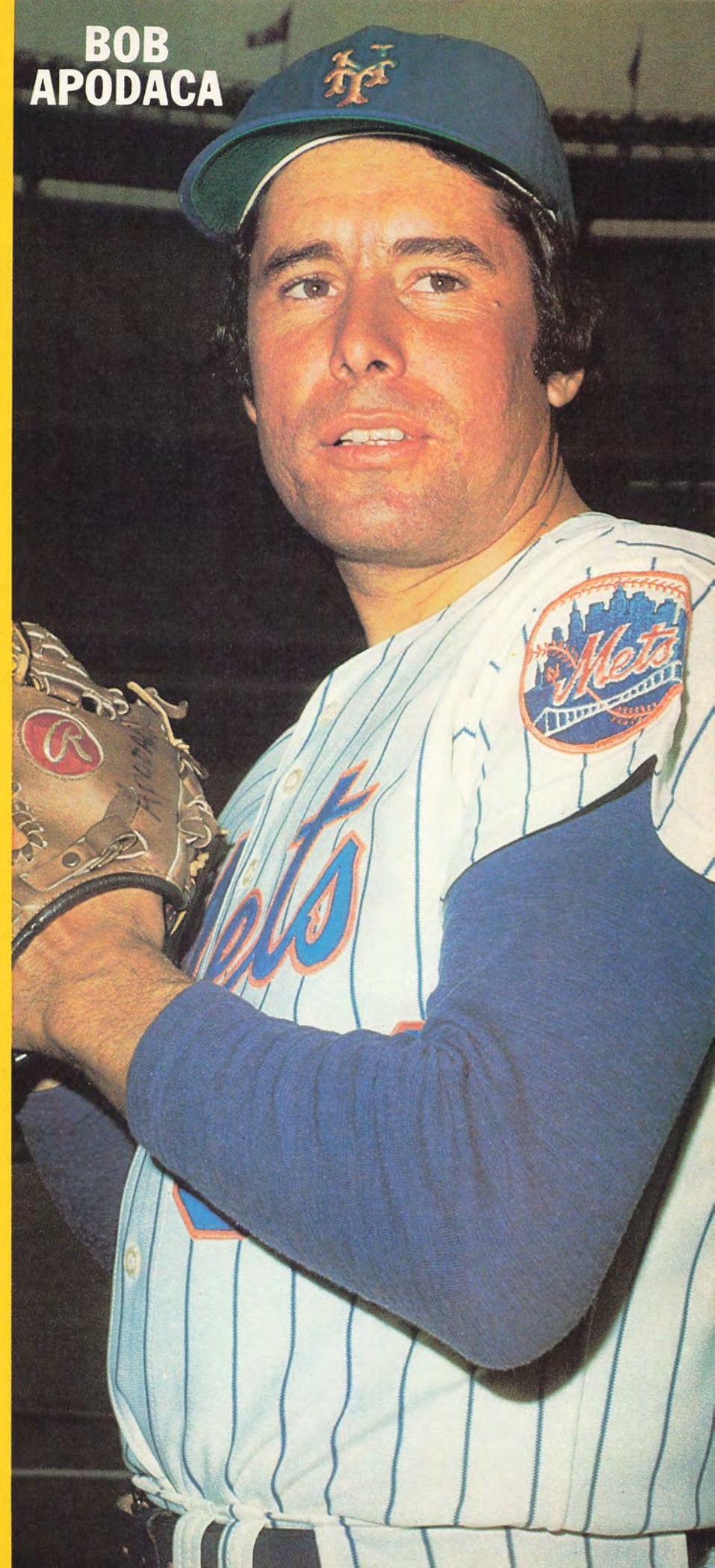
New Hall of Famer Billy Herman.

Early Wynn: Cooperstown resident via Cleveland.

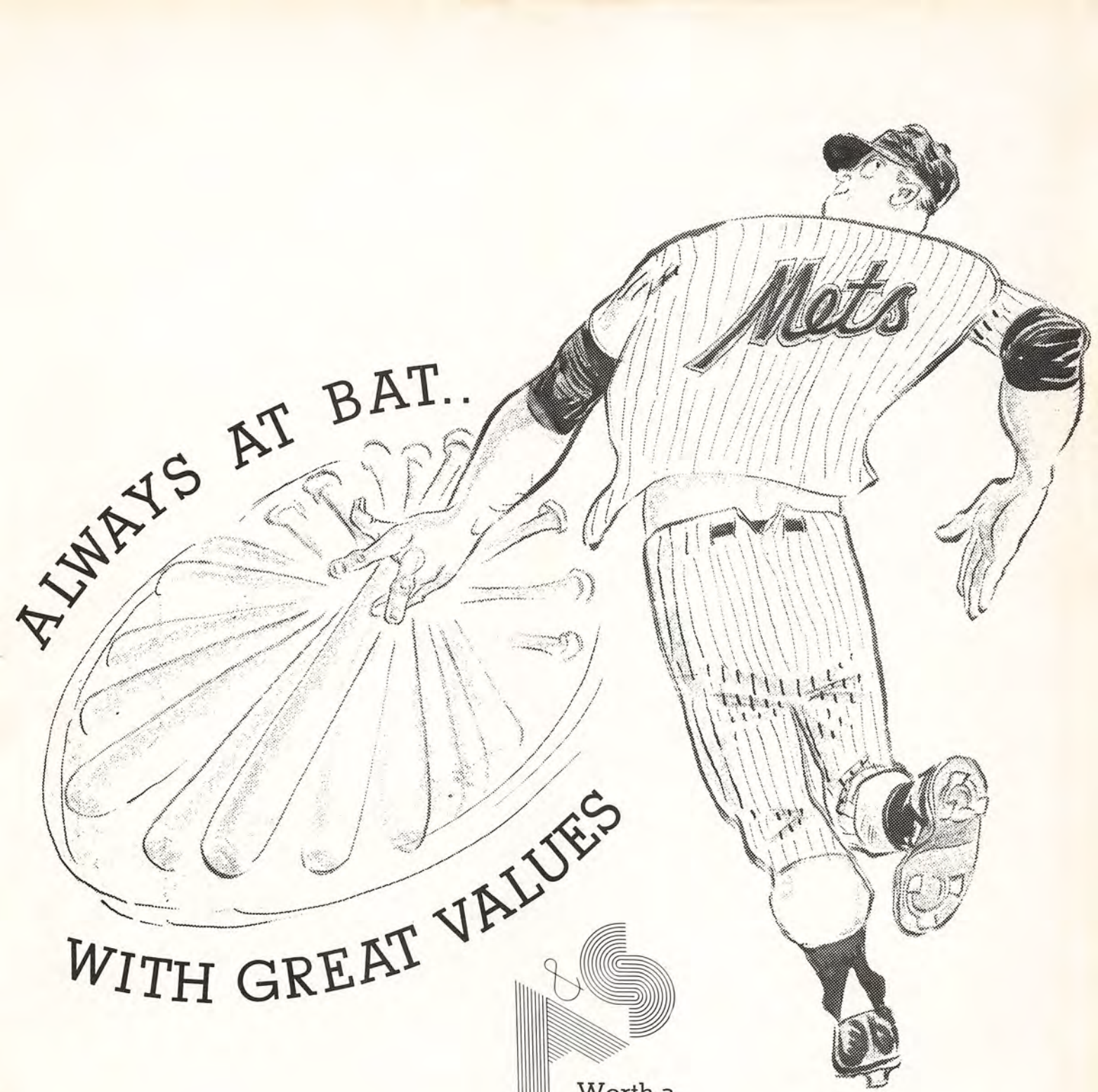


SKIP LOCKWOOD

KEN SANDERS



BUD HARRELSON



Worth a
trip from
anywhere...

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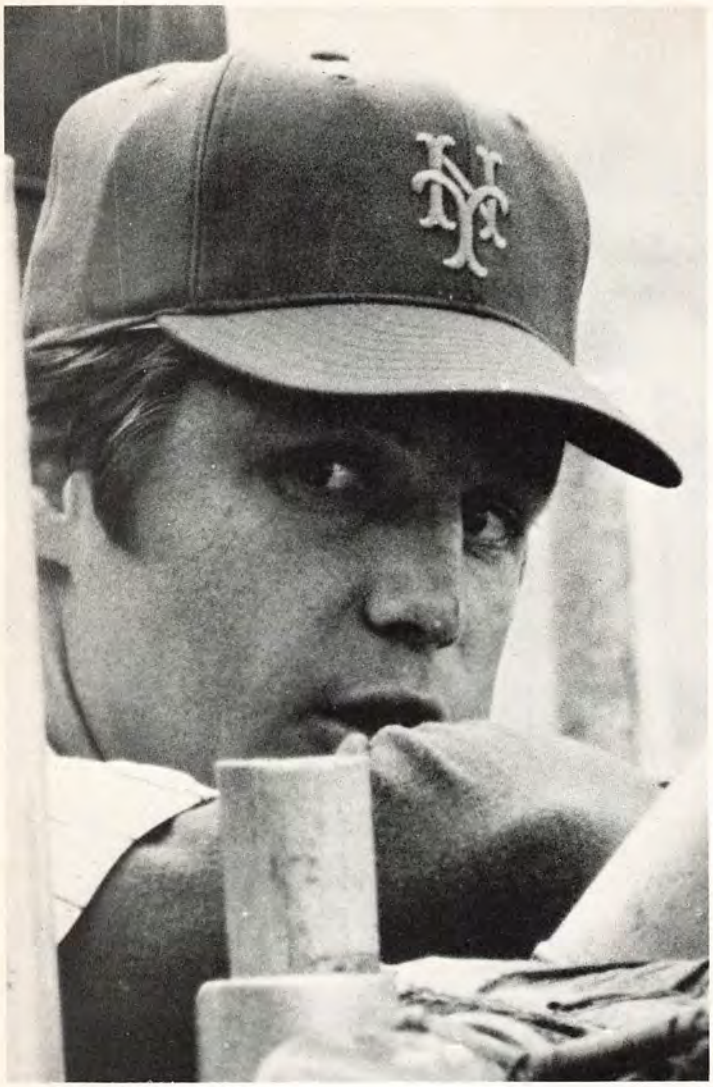


Tom Seaver

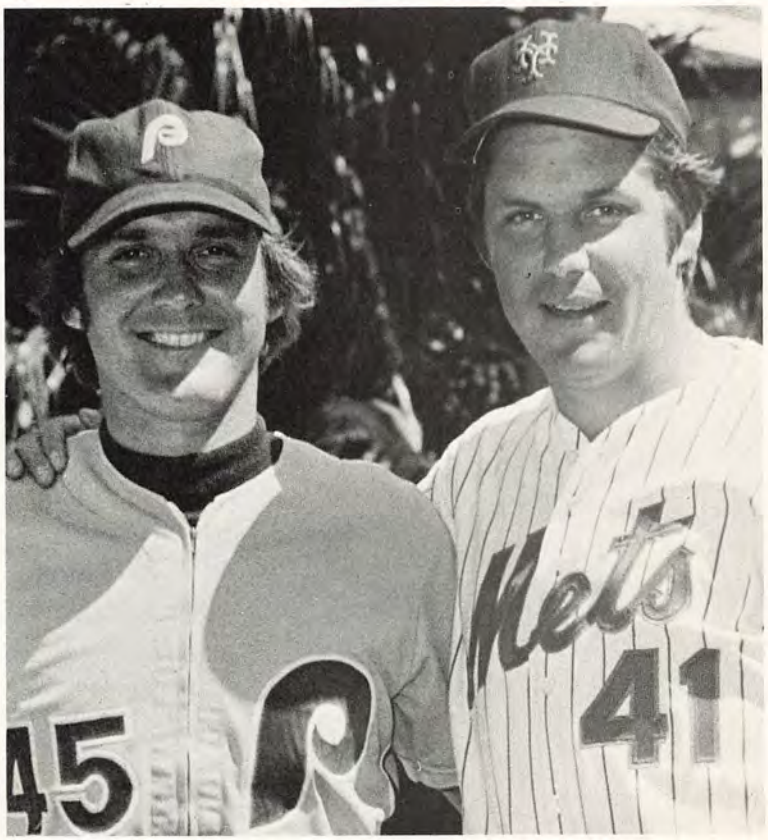
BORN: Nov. 17, 1944, Fresno, Cal.
HT: 6-1; WT: 206;

1975: Climbed all way back to summit after 1974 plunge to depths of 11-11 record traced to spasmatic sciatic nerve that threatened his career. . . Third Cy Young Award (along with those of 1969 & '73) climaxed spectacular return to form in series of remarkable accomplishments, most significant of which included: eighth consecutive year of 200 or more strikeouts—unprecedented in major league history; 2000-strikeout milestone (2099); league-leading 22 wins and 243 strikeouts; and lifetime 2.46 ERA representing lowest figure by pitchers with 2000 or more innings since category was instituted. . . Fanned Manny Sanguillen in 7th inning, Sept. 1, for No. 200, and Reds' Dan Dreissen in 2nd inning, July 24, for 2000. . . Came within one strike of no-hitter against Cubs, Sept. 24, at Wrigley Field, when rookie outfielder Joe Wallis singled with 0-2 count in 9th inning of scoreless duel; allowed two more hits in 10th and gave way to Skip Lockwood, who was tagged with 1-0 defeat in 11. . . Racked up five shutouts, raising career total to 34, figure surpased among active NL pitchers only by Don Sutton's 40 and Mickey Lolich's 39. . . Selection to eighth All Star team in nine seasons, ended on rare negative note: reached for three-run homer by Carl Yastrzemski, for only runs Met pitchers have ever yielded in All Star competition. . . Three times fanned 10 or more for lifetime total of 55. . . During off-season became father of second daughter and worked as weekend WCBS-TV sportscaster.

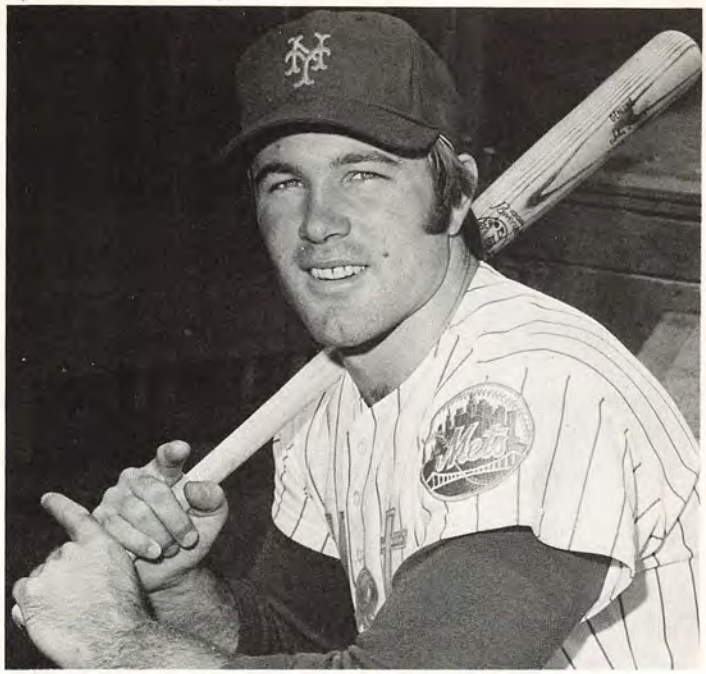
Profusion of career credits include: four one-hitters; NL Rookie-of-Year Award in 1967, first time player on last place team was so-honored; three rare "doubles"—league strikeout & ERA titles same year (1970-71-73); Hickok Pro Athlete of Year and Sporting News Man of Year Awards in 1969; league strikeout records for right-handed pitcher in 1970 & '71; major league mark of 10 consecutive strikeouts, against San Diego, April 22, 1970, when also matched Steve Carlton's record of 19 for nine-inning game. . . Spurned June, 1965 draft by Dodgers and subsequently signed with Braves in 1966, only to have contract voided by then Commissioner Wm. D. Eckert, who ruled signing occurred after USC season had begun; made eligible to clubs willing to match Atlanta contract—Mets winning April 1 drawing from Phillies and Indians (only three teams expressing interest). . . Served Marine Corps hitch after All City baseball & basketball career at Fresno HS; attended Fresno City College before transferring to USC; played with Alaska Goldpanners of Fairbanks in 1964-65. . . Dad, Charles, once represented U.S. in Walker Cup, whose donor was father of G. Herbert Walker, Jr., Mets' Executive VP. . . Last year obtained degree from USC in public relations.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1966-Jacksonville (AAA)	12-12	3.13	34	32	10	210	184	87	73	66	188
1967-Mets (NL)	16-13	2.76	35	34	18	251	224	85	77	78	170
1968-Mets (NL)	16-12	2.20	36	35	14	278	224	73	68	48	205
1969-Mets (NL)	25-7	2.21	36	35	18	273	202	75	67	82	208
1970-Mets (NL)	18-12	2.81	37	36	19	291	230	103	91	83	283
1971-Mets (NL)	20-10	1.76	36	35	21	286	210	61	56	61	289
1972-Mets (NL)	21-12	2.92	35	35	13	262	215	92	85	77	249
1973-Mets (NL)	19-10	2.08	36	36	18	290	219	74	67	64	251
1974-Mets (NL)	11-11	3.20	32	32	12	236	199	89	84	75	201
1975-Mets (NL)	22-9	2.38	36	36	15	280	217	81	74	88	243
Major League Totals	168-96	2.46	319	314	148	2447	1940	733	669	656	2099

Familiar scene: Jerry Grote mitting Seaver after a win.



Old face new hat: Ex-Met Tug McGraw visits Tom Terrific.



John Stearns

BORN: Aug. 21, 1951, Denver, Colo.
HT: 6-0; WT: 185;

1975: Won back-up job to Jerry Grote with eye-catching Gas House Gang aggressiveness that earned him annual John J. Murphy Award emblematic of outstanding rookie of Mets' spring training campaign. . . Recorded first major league home run April 30 in Chicago off Ray Burris. . . Played winter ball with Caguas in Puerto Rico and suffered right hand finger fracture resulting from foul tip.

Nation's second selection (to David Clyde of Texas) in 1973 free agent draft had originally been 9th selection by Oakland in 1969 draft but elected to accept football scholarship at Colorado; participated in four successive post-season Bowls as defensive halfback; enjoyed proportionate success in baseball, winning 1972 Big Eight batting title, 1973 NCAA home run crown (15) and All America team designation. . . Named to International League All Stars in 1974 after moving up from Class A in mid-season. . . Capable of bench-pressing 270 pounds. . . 17th round Buffalo Bills choice in 1973 NFL draft. . . Most quotable quote: Upon being acquired by Mets in Tug McGraw deal, he said: "The Mets made a steal; they would have made an excellent trade if they got me even up for McGraw."

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1973-Reading (AA)	.241	67	166	28	40	7	4	3	24	43	21	2
1974-Rocky Mount (A)	.343	62	230	41	79	16	4	4	38	41	14	6
1974-Toledo (AAA)	.266	77	278	34	74	9	2	3	28	26	25	6
1974-Philadelphia (NL)	.500	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1975-Mets (NL)	.189	59	169	25	32	5	1	3	10	17	15	4
Major League Totals	.193	60	171	25	33	5	1	3	10	17	15	4

STAIGER, Roy Joseph

BORN: Jan: 6, 1950, (26), Tulsa, Okla. HT: 6-0; WT: 200;

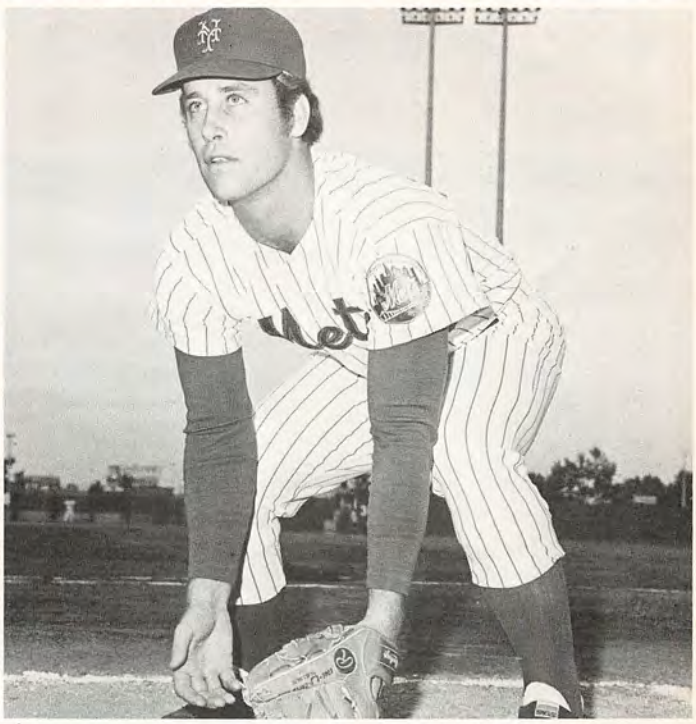
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Tulsa

ACQUIRED: Mets' 1st selection in January, 1970, free agent draft. Signed by Hershel Martin, May 19, 1970.

1975: Prime third base prospect climaxed impressive Tidewater campaign by winning Intenrational League RBI crown (81)—unprecedented feat in club history;lived up to defensive reputation as league's top-fielding (.987) hot corner man, charged with only five errors at 3rd; also handled 67 chances flawlessly at 2nd and made two bobbles in 32 chances at short. . . Key factor in Tidewater stretch run with 22-game August hitting streak; contributed decisive two-run homer against Rochester in one-game playoff breaking first place tie, and batted torrid .464, with four homers and 8 RBI in seven games of Governor's Cup competition. . . Purchased by Mets Sept. 11 and handled 16 chances perfectly in 13 games, although admittedly pressed at bat. . . Played with Aguilas in Domincan Winter League after season.

All State and conference Player-of-Year at Will Rogers HS (Tulsa) in 1968; gained national junior college All America honors at Bacone (Okla.) in 1969 & '70. . . Named Tidewater's 1973 MVP as led league in putouts (98), assists (252) and double plays (31).

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1970-Visalia (A)	.239	76	297	37	71	13	0	7	34	20	56	4
1971-Visalia (A)	.282	139	524	91	148	18	5	19	83	55	72	8
1972-Memphis (AA)	.282	81	277	24	78	10	4	3	38	9	39	0
1973-Tidewater (AAA)	.249	136	434	49	108	13	1	8	55	32	72	1
1974-Tidewater (AAA)	.272	136	452	34	123	21	1	3	38	49	61	1
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.282	137	471	52	133	29	4	9	81	36	56	2
1975-Mets (NL)	.158	13	19	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	0
Major League Totals	.158	13	19	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	0



BALDWIN, Robert Harvey "Billy"

BORN: June 9, 1951, (24), Tazewell, Va. HT: 6-0; WT: 180;

BATS: L; THROWS: L; RESIDENCE: Akron, O.

ACQUIRED: From Detroit with Mickey Lolich for Rusty Staub and Bill Laxton, Dec. 12, 1975.

1975: Brilliant Montgomery and Evansville performances prompted advanceemnt to Detroit, where collected 21 hits in 95 appearances, including four homers; racked up substantial 78-game Montgomery stats of 15 home runs, 48 RBI & nine steals while batting .301, maintained pace in 14 games at Evansville with .306 stickwork that included 62-for-19 and 7 ribbys. . . Made big league debut at Shea vs Yankees, July 29, going 4-for-1, recorded first homer Aug. 5, off Cleveland's Eric Raich, and tapped Luis Tiant for Sept. 11 circuit. . . Reported to Navajoa club for Mexican League competition after season.

GM Joe McDonald insisted on inclusion in Rusty Staub deal during winter meetings on recommendation of Bob Scheffing, who was impressed during late-season AL scouting tour. . . Completely by-passed in free agent draft making Akron scholastic headlines in baseball, football, & soccer which led to Southern University scholarship; two years later signed by Denny Galehouse for Tigers, as undrafted agent. . . Won 1974 Florida State League All Star honors with league-leading 150 hits & 12 triples at Lakeland.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1972-Lakeland (A)	.278	117	413	34	115	14	9	5	47	39	95	6
1972-Montgomery (AA)	.111	5	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1973-Clinton (A)	.281	120	473	66	133	21	2	13	76	50	65	14
1974-Lakeland (A)	.306	130	490	61	150	16	12	7	68	48	56	4
1975-Montgomery (AA)	.301	78	322	45	97	9	4	15	48	23	33	9
1975-Evansville (AAA)	.306	14	62	9	19	2	1	1	7	3	10	3
1975-Detroit (AL)	.221	30	95	8	21	3	0	4	8	5	14	2
Major League Totals	.221	30	95	8	21	3	0	4	8	5	14	2

VAIL, Michael Lewis

BORN: Nov. 10, 1951, (24), San Francisco, Cal. HT: 6-1; WT: 180;

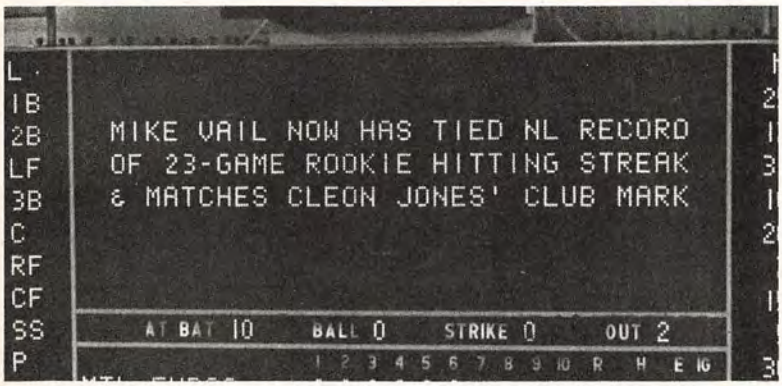
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: San Jose, Cal.

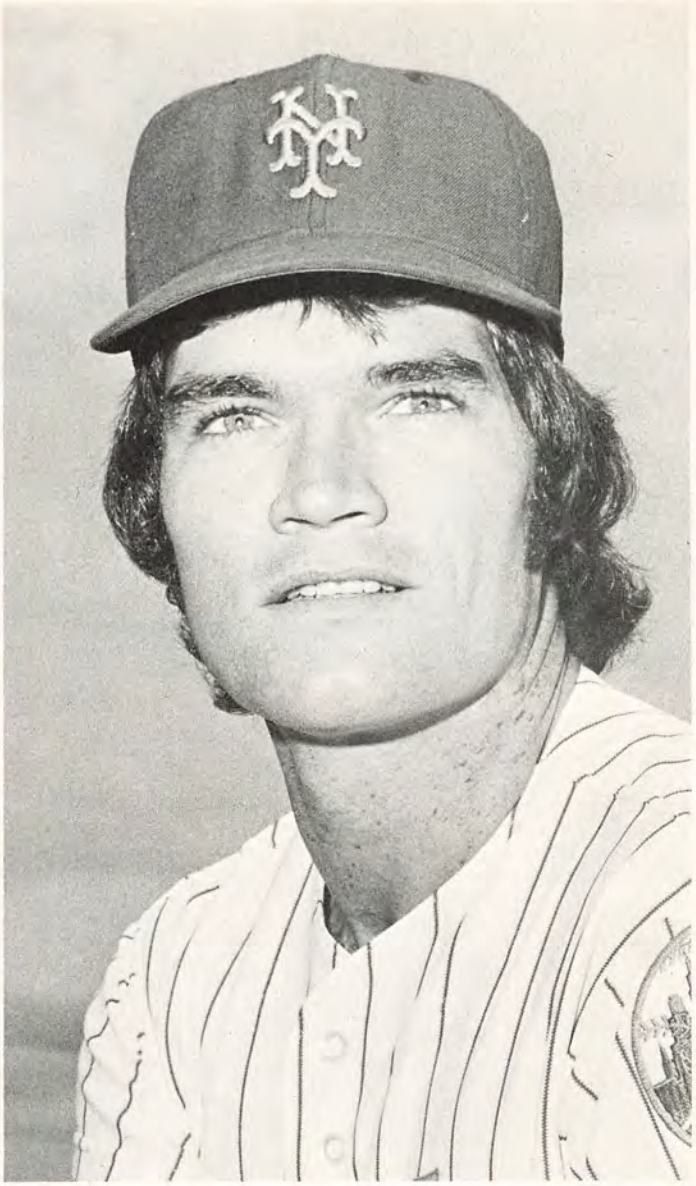
ACQUIRED: By Mets' Tidewater farm club from Cardinals' Tulsa affiliate in deal which sent Jack Heidemann from St. Louis to Mets for Teddy Martinez, Dec. 11, 1974.

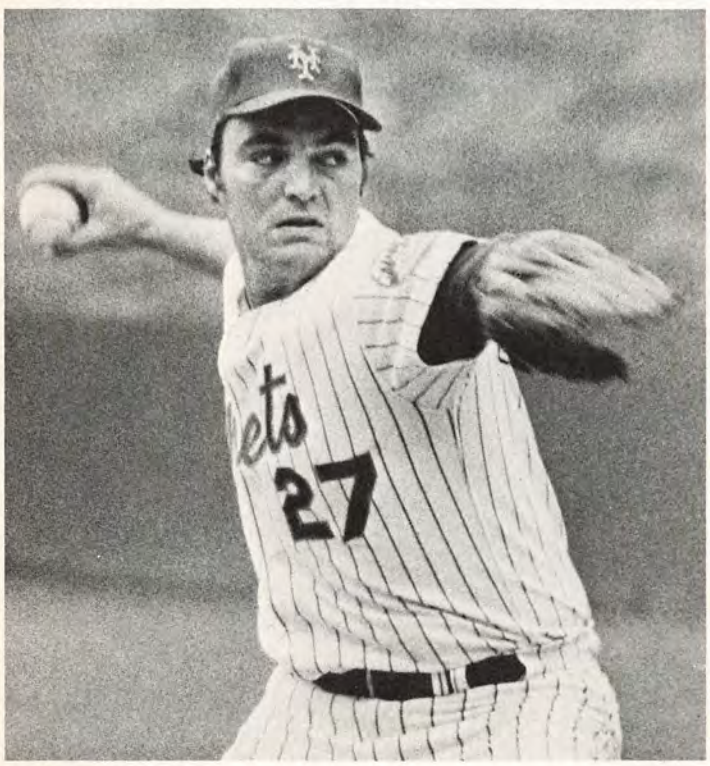
1975: Collected more ink and superlatives than any rookie in Met history after reporting from Tidewater, Aug. 17, as International League leader in hits, triples, RBI & batting, with 19-game hitting streak snapped in final Tide appearance. . . Compiled 23-game Met hitting streak that (a) was season's longest in majors (b) tied NL record for rookie set by Joe Rapp of 1921 Phillies & matched by Richie Ashburn for 1948 Phils (c) equalled Cleon Jones' 1970 club record (d) fell three short of Guy Curtwright's major league freshman standard for 1943 White Sox. . . Streak ironically came to end in longest game of year: 18-inning win over Expos, Sept. 16, (7-for-0 with one walk). . . Broke into majors with pinch single off James Rodney Richard, Aug. 18, and recorded first home run in debut before Shea audience, Sept. 1, on first trip to plate against John Candelaria of Pirates. . . Also impressed with strong arm that accumulated nine assists (including three in finale of Sept. 8 Montreal twin bill). . . Wound up International League MVP and batting champion. . . Played Venezuela winter ball with Lara but came home after three weeks upon aggravating right knee sprain suffered in NL season's final series in Philadelphia.

Pre-season 1976 plans called for transfer from left to right field, where operated for manager Joe Frazier at Tidewater; Frazier had recommended his inclusion with Jack Heidemann in Dec. 11, 1974, deal with Cardinals for Teddy Martinez. . . Credits Joe Medwick with development as hitter, while late Hall of Famer was minor league batting instructor of Cardinals. . . Signed by St. Louis as infielder after graduating from DeAnza (Calif.) Junior College, whose coach was former Met Ed Bressoud.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1971-Sarasota (Rookie)	.253	35	95	6	24	4	1	0	17	6	16	0
1972-Modesto (A)	.235	42	136	15	32	5	0	4	17	17	44	4
1972-Cedar Rapids (A)	.243	61	202	19	49	7	1	7	37	17	38	6
1972-Arkansas (AA)	.185	19	65	4	12	6	0	1	7	2	12	1
1973-Modesto (A)	.278	134	479	81	133	31	9	15	80	53	105	9
1974-Modesto (A)	.357	62	221	37	79	15	3	7	41	34	42	4
1974-Arkansas (AA)	.314	73	261	31	82	7	4	8	35	16	53	1
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.342	115	409	53	140	23	9	7	79	34	74	3
1975-Mets (NL)	.302	38	162	17	49	8	1	3	17	9	37	0
Major League Totals	.302	38	162	17	49	8	1	3	17	9	37	0







Craig Swan

BORN: Nov. 30, 1950, Van Nuys, Cal.
HT: 6-3; WT: 225;

Craig Swan

1975: Complete recovery from 1974 elbow fracture underscored by gaudy Tidewater figures that included International League-leading 13 complete games, club record seven-game winning streak and 2.24 ERA. . . Recalled Aug. 13, chalked up lone Met win three days later, 4-2, over Giants. . . Reported to Caguas for Puerto Rico Winter League ball after season.

Emerged as Mets' No. 1 prospect after only 14 games and one year of professional ball, only to have development hindered by physical setbacks subsequent two seasons; peritonitis that followed May, 1973, appendectomy; and stress fracture of elbow (traced to May 26, start against Pittsburgh) with which he pitched 10 weeks, to astonishment of doctors, before injury was determined. . . Had been relied on to round out "Big Five" with Seaver, Koosman, Matlack and Stone in 1974 after Mets resisted all trade bids (including one from Houston as part of Jimmy Wynn deal) at winter meetings. . . Worked at curbing appetite that ballooned him to 255 pounds three years ago. . . Arizona State varsity career highlighted by school records in victories (47), strikeouts (459) and IP (457); lost only one of 17 decisions as senior, winning twice in College World Series tourney. . . Pitched semi-pro ball in Alaska summers of 1969-70-71, after spurning Cardinal selection in 1968 free agent draft upon high school graduation.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1972-Memphis (AA)	7-3	2.24	14	14	6	108	102	28	27	26	81
1973-Tidewater (AAA)	7-5	2.34	16	14	8	100	88	30	26	25	79
1973-Mets (NL)	0-1	9.00	3	1	0	8	16	9	8	2	4
1974-Mets (NL)	1-3	4.50	7	5	0	30	28	19	15	21	10
1974-Tidewater (AAA)	2-3	4.73	9	9	2	51	53	29	27	17	31
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	13-7	2.24	26	24	13	177	136	48	44	38	113
1975-Mets (NL)	1-3	6.39	6	6	0	31	38	22	22	13	19
Major League Totals	2-7	5.87	16	12	0	69	82	50	45	36	33

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Carriage trade: Who better represented baseball high society than Charles Dillon Stengel, here making 1974 Oldtimer entrance.

Baseball royalty: Former NL president Warren Giles, Cleveland's Hall of Fame hurler Stan Coveleski, AL prexy Joe Cronin and The Good Doctor.

Casey and 'The Lady'—

Beau ideal: Bevy of Diamond Club beauties surround Casey.

A Met Scribe drops in — or eavesdrops in — on Casey & Joe D.

Imp-udence: Typical elfin Stengel expression breaks up John Milner.

The virtuoso pinch hits for Guy Lombardo, sending The Royal Canadians through paces at 1964 opening of Shea.

Casey Stengel & Mrs. Joan Payson in rare field appearance.

Rare case of Casey being upstaged: Shy daughter of 1969 World Series hero Al Weis bolts for dugout after introduction.

Ol' Perfessor gives ex-pupil Yogi Berra post graduate advice.

Met "Originals": Casey is flanked by Ken MacKenzie and Rod Kanehl.

First Lady relaxes between innings of 1969 World Series inaugural that touched off Miracle of the Mets. Board Chairman Don Grant is at Mrs. Payson's left.

For Whom the Bells Tolled

Proud president with Son John, his wife Nancy & grandchildren Charles & Heather

Beloved Met figures made warm 1970 Old-timer Day twosome.

Joan Payson's favorite role: Cheerleader of the Mets—here basking in glory of her Miracle Men.

Joan Payson has honor of throwing out first ball at '73 Championship Series, but honor was ours. Her brother, former British Ambassador John Hay Whitney, is her guest.

First Ladies: Mrs. Payson and Pat Nixon before start of '69 Series. Commissioner Kuhn's at right.

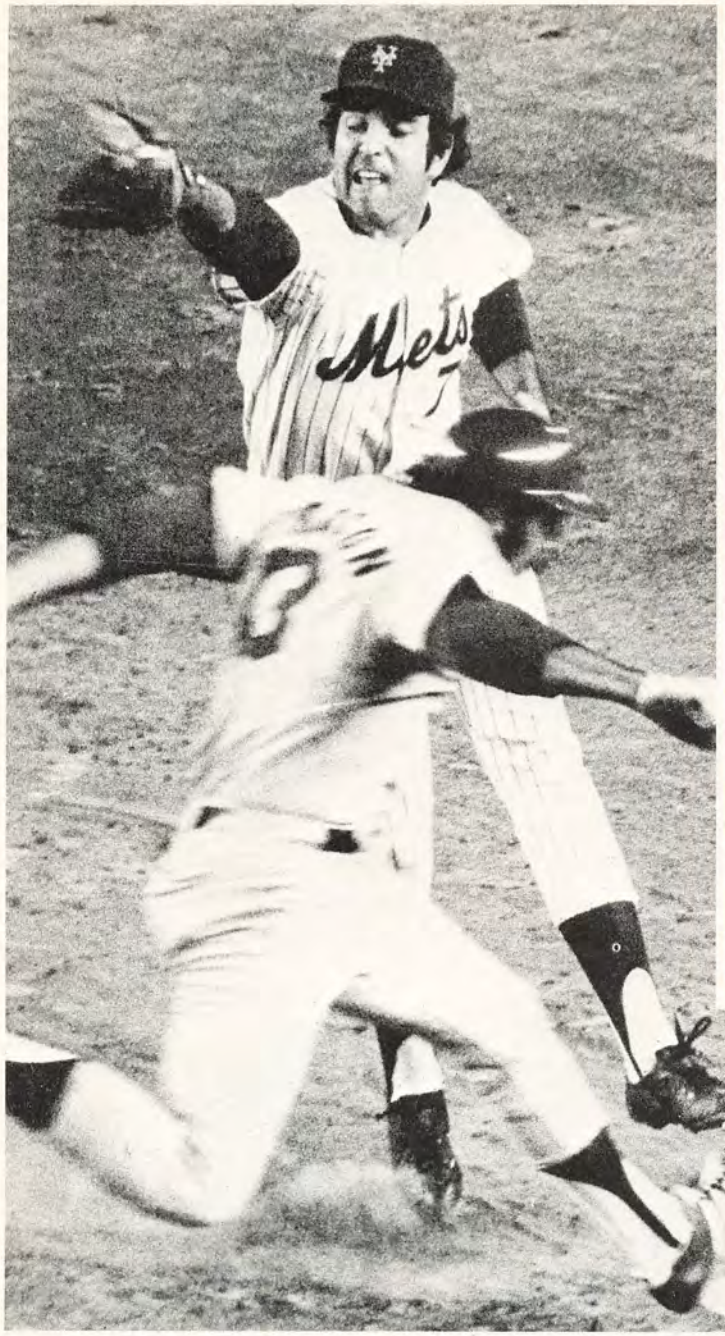
The King & Queen: Carl Hubbell greets pre-Mets' No. 1 fan of Giants.

Portrait of Champions: Gil Hodges and Mrs. Payson in manager's office moments after Met Miracle.

Charles Shipman Payson and his Lady arriving as proud hosts of 1969 Mets' Christmas party.

All time home run king Hank Aaron pays respects in final Shea appearance as Atlanta Brave.

ED KRANEPOOL



Kranepool's long stretch also applies to Met career: 15 years.

Ed Kranepool

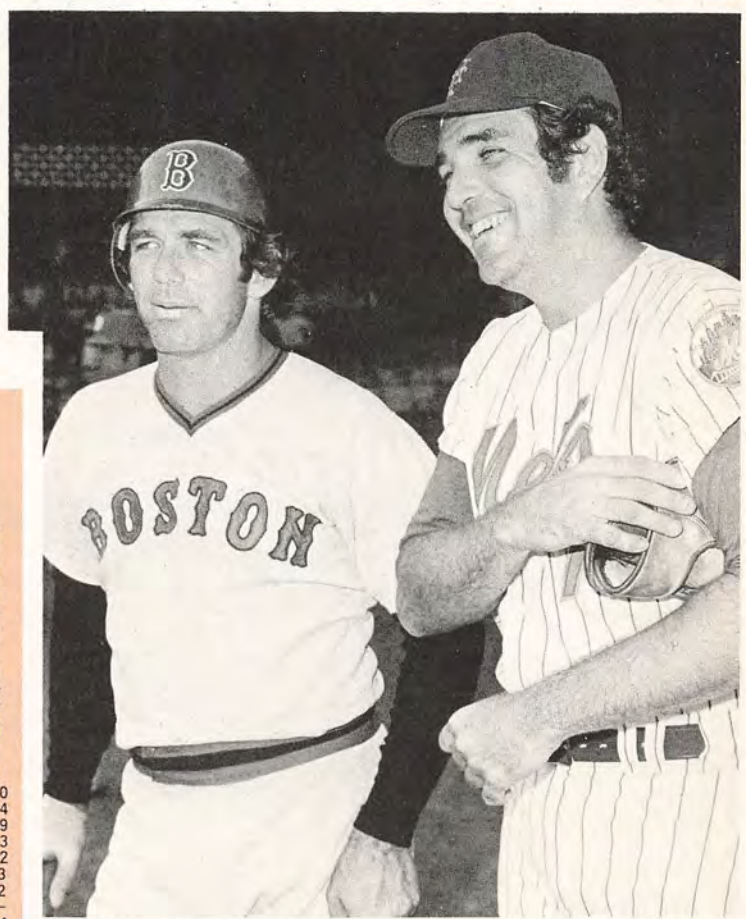
BORN: Nov. 8, 1944, Bronx, N.Y.

HT: 6-3; WT: 210;

1975: Ever-ready Eddie enjoyed in many respects finest season, responding to diversified role of pinch-hitter extraordinaire, left-fielder and first baseman with career high .323 average. . . Collected eight hits, three walks & sac fly in 24 pinch appearances (remarkable .500 efficiency), worked four games in outfield and 82 at first, committing only two errors. . . Saw starting service on regular basis when John Milner suffered May 15 hamstring pull in Mayor Trophy game, and in next 14 games soared from .308 to .412 on 46-for-23 spree. . . Nursed 18-game hitting streak through July 18-Aug. 5. . . . Struck out only 21 times and went to bat 86 times before Tom Griffin pinned first whiff on him, June 5.

First 1976 home run will make him all-time Met leader, status now holds in games, at-bats & doubles; second in runs, hits & RBI. . . Was 17 years old and Mets three months old when signed to $85,000 bonus contract out of James Monroe (Bronx) HS; has since become only player to participate in every season of Met history. . . Achieved greatest popularity and most respect in 1974 reserve role, setting club record of 17 pinch hits (in 35 appearances), NL figure matched only by Tony Taylor. . . Contender for 1971 Comeback-Player-of-Year honors, establishing then-career highs in batting, RBI and doubles after considering retirement in pique reaction to Tidewater optioning, June 24, 1970. . . One-time stock broker and restauranteur hero of Mets' post-season tour of Japan with pace-setting seven homers and .386 clubbing that inspired Nipponese inquiries about his availability.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1962-Syracuse (AAA)	.229	14	48	2	11	1	1	0	4	6	12	0
1962-Knoxville (A)	.278	7	18	4	5	3	0	0	0	2	2	0
1962-Auburn (D)	.351	20	77	23	27	2	1	1	18	14	15	0
1962-Mets (NL)	.167	3	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
1963-Mets (NL)	.209	86	273	22	57	12	2	2	14	18	50	4
1963-Buffalo (AAA)	.310	53	203	28	63	9	8	5	33	20	34	2
1964-Buffalo (AAA)	.352	15	54	7	19	4	1	3	7	10	3	1
1964-Mets (NL)	.257	119	420	47	108	19	4	10	45	32	50	0
1965-Mets (NL)	.253	153	525	44	133	24	4	10	53	39	71	1
1966-Mets (NL)	.254	146	464	51	118	15	2	16	57	41	66	1
1967-Mets (NL)	.269	141	469	37	126	17	1	10	54	37	51	0
1968-Mets (NL)	.231	127	373	29	86	13	1	3	20	19	39	0
1969-Mets (NL)	.238	112	353	36	84	9	2	11	49	37	32	3
1970-Mets (NL)	.170	43	47	2	8	0	0	0	3	5	2	0
1970-Tidewater (AAA)	.310	47	174	29	54	8	3	7	45	30	11	2
1971-Mets (NL)	.280	122	421	61	118	20	4	14	58	38	33	0
1972-Mets (NL)	.269	122	327	28	88	15	1	8	34	34	35	1
1973-Mets (NL)	.239	100	284	28	68	12	2	1	35	30	28	1
1974-Mets (NL)	.300	94	217	20	65	11	1	4	24	18	14	1
1975-Mets (NL)	.323	106	325	42	105	16	0	4	43	27	21	1
Major League Totals	.259	1474	4504	447	1165	184	24	93	489	375	493	13



Well-travelled Tim McCarver and Steady Eddie.

ESPINOSA, Arnulfo Acevedo "Nino"

BORN: Aug. 15, 1953, (22), Villa Altagracia, Dom. Rep. HT: 6-0; WT: 160;

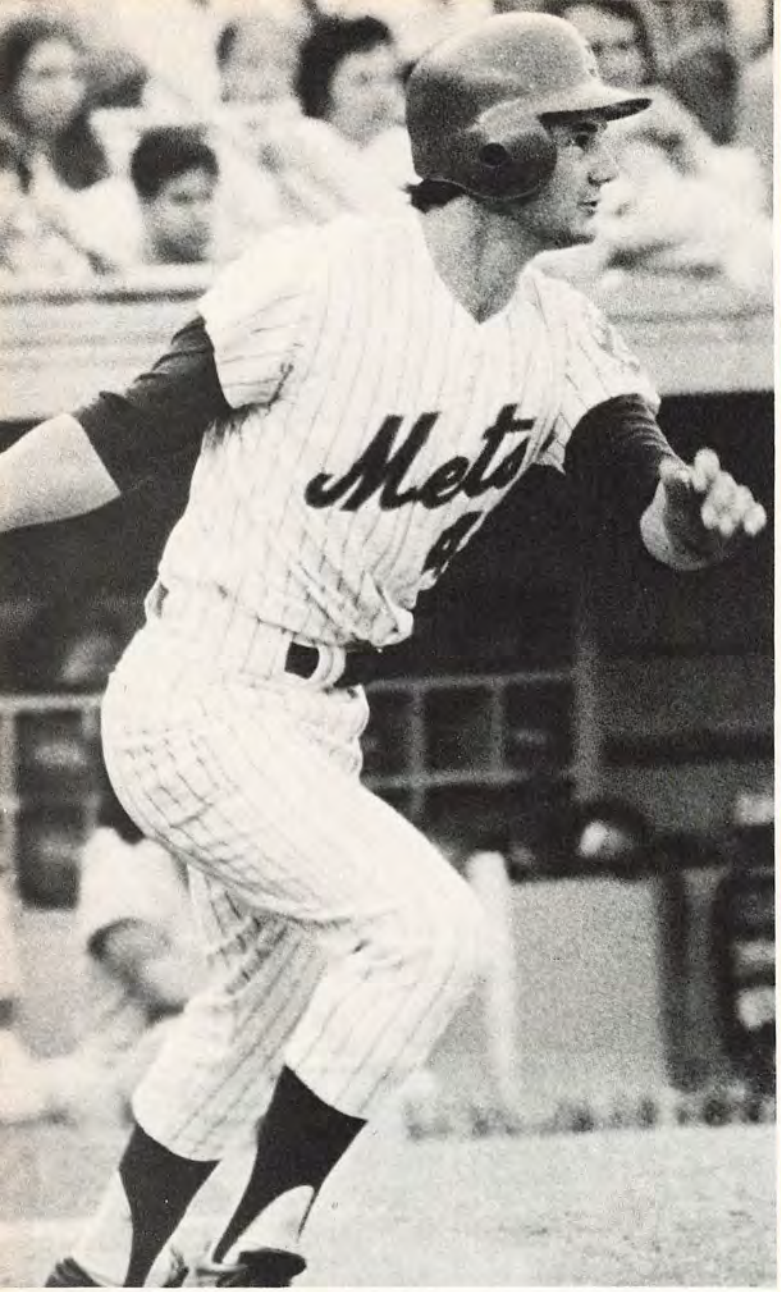
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Villa Altagracia

ACQUIRED: Signed by Bubber Jonnard, Sept. 30, 1970.

1975: Called up from Tidewater June 30 after Bob Apodaca went on disabled list; made two appearances before being sent down again July 18, charged with 10-7 defeat in Philadelphia, July 5, that represents only major league decision. . . Compiled impressive 2.61 ERA at Tidewater, where contributions included 4-hit shutout over Rochester, Sept. 2, in one-game playoff for International League title after both teams finished deadlocked for first place at end of regular season. . . Led International League pitchers in fielding, handling 39 chances flawlessly, and then reported to Aguilas for Dominican Winter League duty.

Came to U.S. in summer of 1970 to live with brother Amable; played amateur baseball in Bronx and in Brooklyn's Pan American League, where he attracted Mets' scouting attention. . . Made impressive major league debut Sept. 13, 1974, four days after being called up from Victoria, by throwing seven scoreless innings at Cubs, only to see 2-0 lead transformed into 3-2 deficit during eighth inning kayo.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1971-Key West (A)	6-12	2.97	41	7	3	115	116	53	44	32	70
1972-Pompano Beach (A)	8-6	4.15	40	3	2	89	115	51	41	12	64
1973-Visalia (A)	10-10	4.19	25	25	7	174	184	99	81	54	109
1974-Victoria (AA)	9-8	3.42	25	18	6	137	137	66	52	26	63
1974-Mets (NL)	0-0	5.00	2	1	0	9	12	5	5	0	2
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	8-5	2.61	24	21	8	141	127	48	41	38	83
1975-Mets (NL)	0-1	18.00	2	0	0	3	8	6	6	1	2
Major League Totals	0-1	9.00	4	1	0	11	20	11	11	1	4



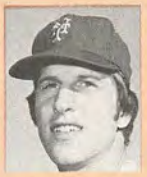
Ron Hodges

BORN: June 22, 1949, Franklin County, Va.
HT: 6-1; WT: 185;

1975: Reported to Mets Sept. 12, upon completion of International League playoffs. . . Hit two home runs in as many days against Phillies: 11th-inning two-run blow for 9-7 victory Sept. 20, and another two-run belt (among his three hits) following day. . . No. 1 Tidewater receiver for International League-leading ERA staff, and improved the throwing which had fallen below par with Mets in 1974.

Not related to late Mets' Miracle Manager, although was 1972 roomie of Gil Hodges, Jr., during first year of pro ball at Pompano. . . Caught eyes of Yogi Berra and Rube Walker during 1972 Florida Instructional League tour and brought up in emergency measure from Memphis, June 6, 1973, despite .173 batting average; proceeded to take over with professional flair as replacement for injured Jerry Grote and then made vital contributions to successful pennant push after Grote's return; failed, however, to play to potential during disappointing 1974 Met campaign. . . Tapped by Baltimore, Kansas City and Atlanta in free agent drafts of 1970 and '71. . . One of nine children, and now has one of own since wife Peggy gave birth to their first born last October.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1972-Pompano Beach (A) ..	.256	112	359	59	92	15	4	15	48	71	43	1
1973-Memphis (AA)	.173	47	139	12	24	4	0	1	11	27	30	0
1973-Mets (NL)	.260	45	127	5	33	2	0	1	18	11	19	0
1974-Mets (NL)	.221	59	136	16	30	4	0	4	14	19	11	0
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.266	95	278	27	74	8	0	2	33	45	33	2
1975-Mets (NL)	.206	9	34	3	7	1	0	2	4	1	6	0
Major League Totals	.236	113	297	24	70	7	0	7	36	31	36	0



Rick Baldwin

BORN: June 1, 1953, Fresno, Cal.
HT: 6-3; WT: 170;

1975: Staff leader in appearances with 54 (all in relief), despite raw rookie status, and second to Bob Apodaca in saves with six. . . Recorded first major league victory April 17 in St. Louis, allowing three hits and two runs over 5⅔-inning span that represented his longest of year. . . Reported to Florida Instructional League entry after season to develop change-up pitch as supplement to natural sinker, and played winter ball in Puerto Rico with Santurce after completion of Instructional League campaign.

Bible-reading 210th player selected in 1971 free agent draft ear-marked for stardom by Nelson Burbrink, Director of Player Development who took him off starting line during 1974 season at Victoria and moved him into bullpen; decision paid dividends amounting to nine triumphs and eight saves in relief as Victoria went on to take Texas League title. . . First professional catcher (with Marion, Va., Rookie League club) was Larry Berra, son of former Met manager, whose career was ended by torn knee cartilage.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1971-Marion (Rookie)	4-4	2.94	10	7	3	52	50	20	17	8	29
1972-Visalia (A)	12-8	4.94	27	27	8	164	172	109	90	79	105
1973-Memphis (AA)	9-8	3.94	27	17	5	121	133	65	53	43	66
1974-Victoria (AA)	9-5	3.23	40	4	1	96	96	43	34	40	54
1975-Mets (NL)	3-5	3.34	54	0	0	97	97	39	36	34	54
Major League Totals	3-5	3.34	54	0	0	97	97	39	36	34	54

MYRICK, Robert Howard, Jr.

BORN: Oct. 1, 1952, (23), Hattiesburg, Miss. HT: 6-1; WT: 195;

BATS: R; THROWS: L; RESIDENCE: Hattiesburg

ACQUIRED: Mets' 20th selection in June, 1974, free agent draft. Signed by Jim Hughes, June 11, 1974.

1975: Worked both ways at Jackson (12 relief appearances) in 22 games, compiling 7-4 record & 2.26 ERA before being brought up to Tidewater, where made excellent impression with 11 scoreless relief innings in seven appearances and gained credit for wins his three decisions.

Achieved great scholastic success in basketball, football & baseball (including Perfect Game) and tapped on 29th round of 1970 free agent draft by Baltimore; elected to attend Mississippi State, where was factor in conference & NCAA district championships and College World Series berth. . . 471st player selected in 1974 draft. . . Reported to 1976 camp as invited player. . . Grand nephew of late Buddy Myer, famed Red Sox & Washington second baseman (1925-41) who won 1935 AL batting crown.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1974-Batavia (A)	3-5	4.50	12	12	1	82	88	53	41	39	62
1974-Tidewater (AAA)	0-0	0.00	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	1
1975-Jackson (AA)	7-4	3.26	22	12	4	116	98	54	42	49	70
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	3-0	0.00	7	0	0	11	7	0	0	2	9

John Milner

John Milner

BORN: Dec. 28, 1949, Atlanta, Ga.

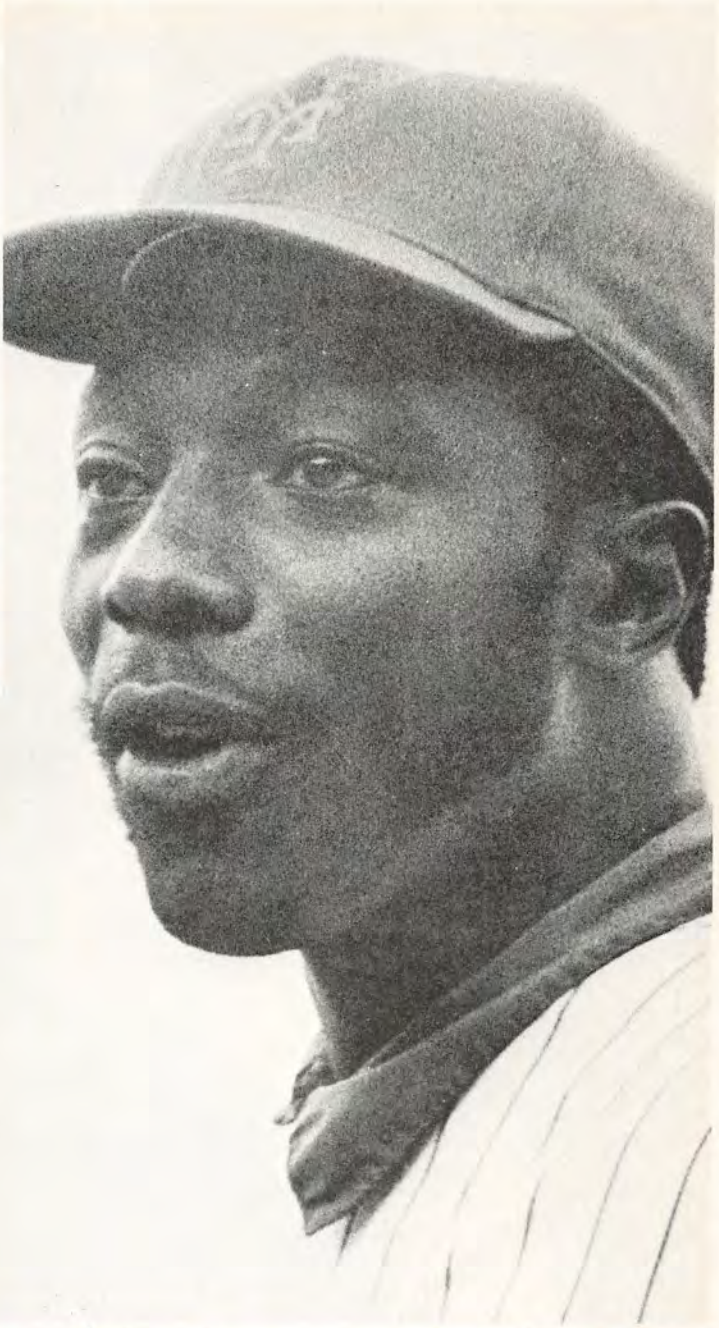
HT: 6-0; WT: 185;

1975: Three-time club home run champion went into decline after suffering pulled leg muscle in Mayor Trophy game, May 15, winding up with poorest stats of pro career; struggled home at .191 in 91 games, and connected for last of seven circuits Aug. 3 in Pittsburgh. . . Delivered only twice in 32 pinch-hitting appearances; played 31 games in outfield & 29 at first.

First authentic power hitter developed in farm system and "capable of 40 home runs a year" in opinion of qualified observers if could learn to cut down swing and go with pitch. . . Nagged by muscle pulls, he has yet to enjoy injury-free campaign, but still managed to take Met homer titles first three seasons; accumulated career high 23—including two Grand Slams, off Mike Torrez & Dave Tomlin—in 1973, despite missing 23 straight games with pulled hamstring. . . Appeared headed for stardom after impressive 1972 season begun on high note during spring training campaign climaxed by first annual John J. Murphy Award as camp's outstanding rookie.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1968-Marion (Rookie)	.321	67	234	50	75	18	1	1	28	42	46	7
1969-Pompano Beach (A) ..	.354	17	65	12	23	3	2	3	18	12	9	0
1969-Visalia (A)	.326	111	393	90	128	20	4	15	63	78	61	9
1970-Memphis (AA)	.297	136	461	98	137	19	8	20	71	100	59	27
1971-Tidewater (AAA)	.290	133	497	82	144	27	5	19	87	57	60	13
1971-Mets (NL)	.167	9	18	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
1972-Mets (NL)	.238	117	362	52	86	12	2	17	38	51	74	2
1973-Mets (NL)	.239	129	451	69	108	12	3	23	72	62	84	1
1974-Mets (NL)	.252	137	507	70	128	19	0	20	63	66	77	10
1975-Mets (NL)	.191	91	220	24	42	11	0	7	29	33	22	1
Major League Totals	.236	483	1558	216	367	55	5	67	203	212	260	14

NL All-Star first baseman Steve Garvey and Shea's Milner.



MET HITTING STREAKS

PLAYER	GAMES	YEAR	DATES
Cleon Jones	23	1970	Aug. 25-Sept. 15
Mike Vail	23	1975	Aug. 22-Sept. 15
Tommie Agee	20	1970	Apr. 16-May 9
Tommie Agee	19	1970	June 22-July 8
Felix Millan	19	1975	July 5-July 26
Ed Kranepool	18	1975	July 11-Aug. 5
Felix Millan	18	1973	July 13-Aug. 1
Frank Thomas	18	1962	Aug. 12-Aug. 30
Joe Torre	16	1975	May 24-June 9
Rusty Staub	15	1973	Sept. 15-Oct. 1
Felix Mantilla	14	1962	Apr. 21-May 12
Jesse Gonder	14	1963	July 19-Aug. 4
Felix Millan	14	1974	July 9-Aug. 11

AYALA, Beningo "Benny"

BORN: Feb. 7, 1951, (25), Yauco, P.R. HT: 6-1; WT: 185;

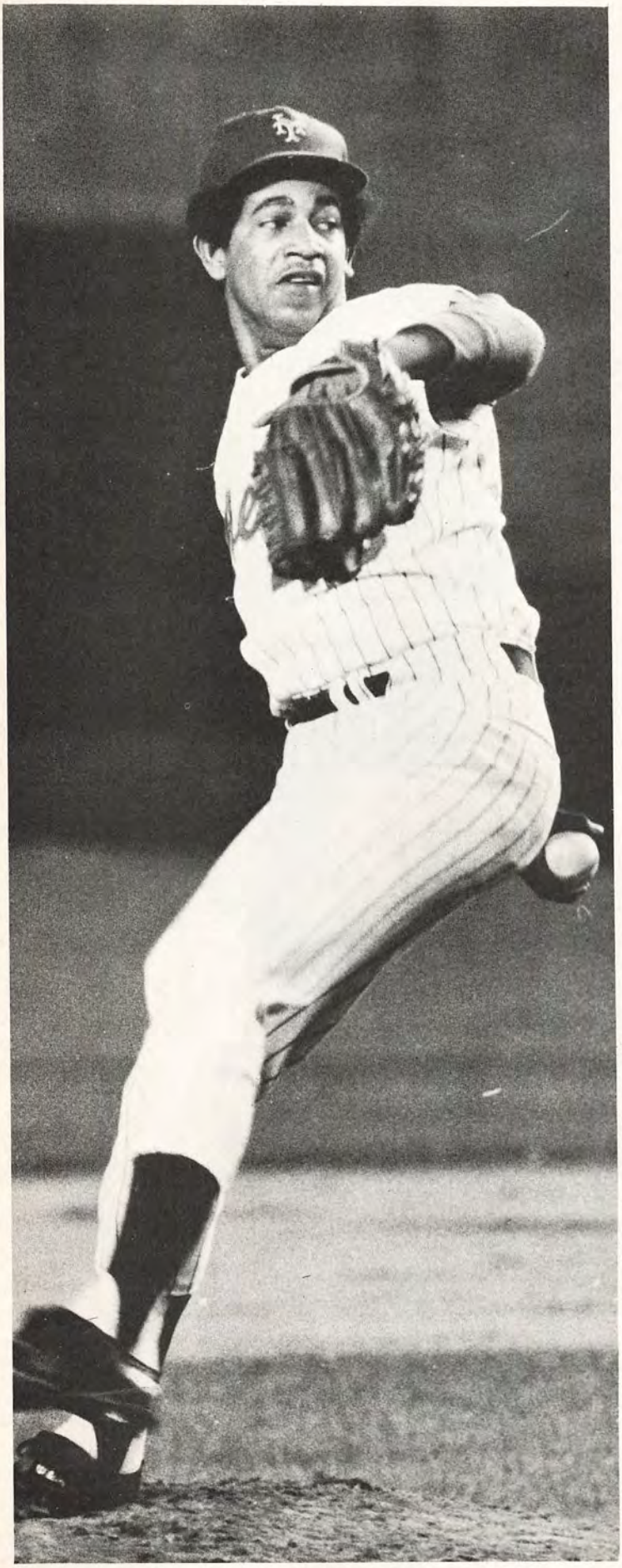
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Bayamon, P.R.

ACQUIRED: Signed by Nino Escalera, Jan. 28, 1971.

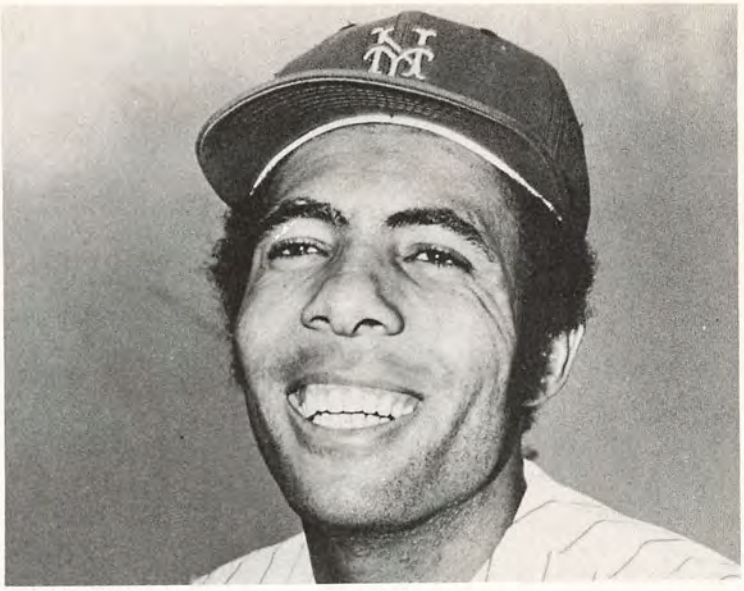
1975: Sidelined six weeks with left hand fractured by Bob Galasso (Rochester) pitch April 18, and used sparingly until taking over for Mike Vail after latter joined Mets, Aug. 17; responded by emerging as one of key figures in successful pennant push. . . Starred in two of Tides' victories over Syracuse in final round of International League playoffs, poling two-run homer in 3-1 first game and scoring both runs in 2-1 third game. . . Played customary Puerto Rico Winter ball for Arecibo after season.

Made vivid impression on Yogi Berra during latter's Carribbean tour following 1973 campaign, winding up Puerto Rico League MVP on strength of league-leading 14 home runs, runner-up 46 RBI & .340 average that shrunk from .422 six weeks earlier after Craig Swan fast ball clipped his wrist; tutored by Willie Mays in minor league camp after reporting from spectacular winter ball exploits. . . Made history Aug. 27, 1974, as first Met to hit homer in first major league turn at bat (off Astros' Tom Griffin), feat which hadn't been accomplished in NL since Cuno Barragan turned trick for 1961 Cubs. . . Attracted attention after outstanding scholastic athletic career and attended Junior college one year in Rio Piedras, P.R.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1971-Visalia (A)	.217	21	46	3	10	0	1	1	7	14	21	0
1971-Pompano Beach (A) ..	.279	63	208	38	58	7	4	8	34	25	61	8
1972-Visalia (A)	.227	113	348	68	79	15	2	19	66	57	115	6
1973-Memphis (AA)	.258	136	462	69	119	17	6	17	68	70	74	6
1974-Tidewater (AAA)	.274	92	288	41	79	21	1	11	40	35	66	0
1974-Mets (NL)	.235	23	68	9	16	1	0	2	8	7	17	0
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.277	65	177	24	49	13	0	6	28	16	33	3
Major League Totals	.235	23	68	9	16	1	0	2	8	7	17	0



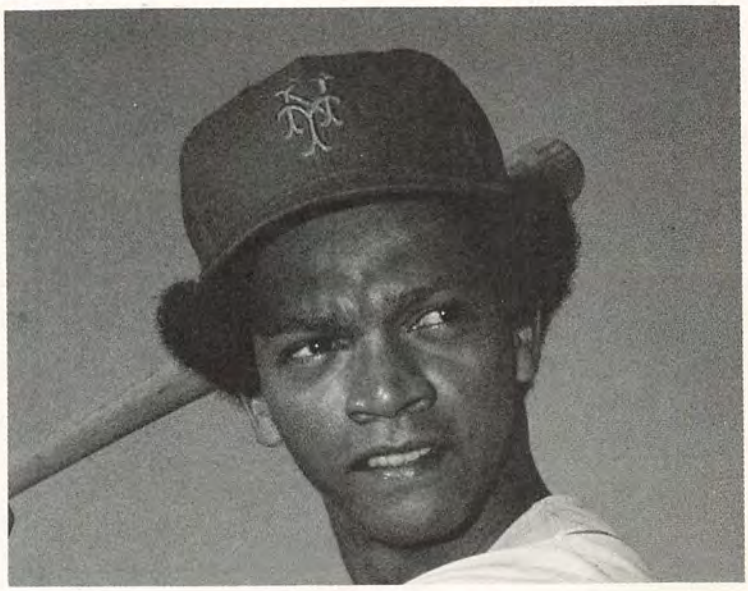
NINO ESPINOSA (SEE PAGE 45 FOR CAREER RECORD)



BROWN, Leon

BORN: Nov. 16, 1948, (28), Sacramento, Cal. HT: 6-0; WT: 185;
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Tempe, Ariz.
ACQUIRED: By Mets' Tidewater affiliate from Giants' Phoenix farm for Bob Gallagher, Mar. 4, 1976.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1967-Stockton (A)	.000	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
1967-Bluefield (Rookie)	.217	33	83	12	18	2	1	0	9	5	13	7
1968-Stockton (A)	.221	48	140	14	31	3	1	1	13	19	28	5
1968-Aberdeen (A)	.267	70	251	30	67	8	4	3	17	16	34	22
1969-Stockton (A)	.258	126	438	74	113	21	7	5	39	45	80	22
1970-Stockton (A)	.269	140	572	78	154	21	4	4	49	34	84	51
1971-Dallas-Ft. Worth (AA)	.272	138	556	62	151	16	10	2	37	35	46	18
1972-Amarillo (AA)	.298	136	567	78	169	29	4	8	58	40	53	18
1973-Phoenix (AAA)	.287	109	356	60	102	19	4	4	43	20	28	8
1974-Phoenix (AAA)	.333	31	114	21	38	6	3	0	11	10	12	3
1974-Iowa (AAA)	.291	93	292	35	85	16	5	2	50	8	33	7
1975-Phoenix (AAA)	.328	92	256	38	84	10	5	2	36	19	19	17



FOSTER, Leonard Norris 'Leo'

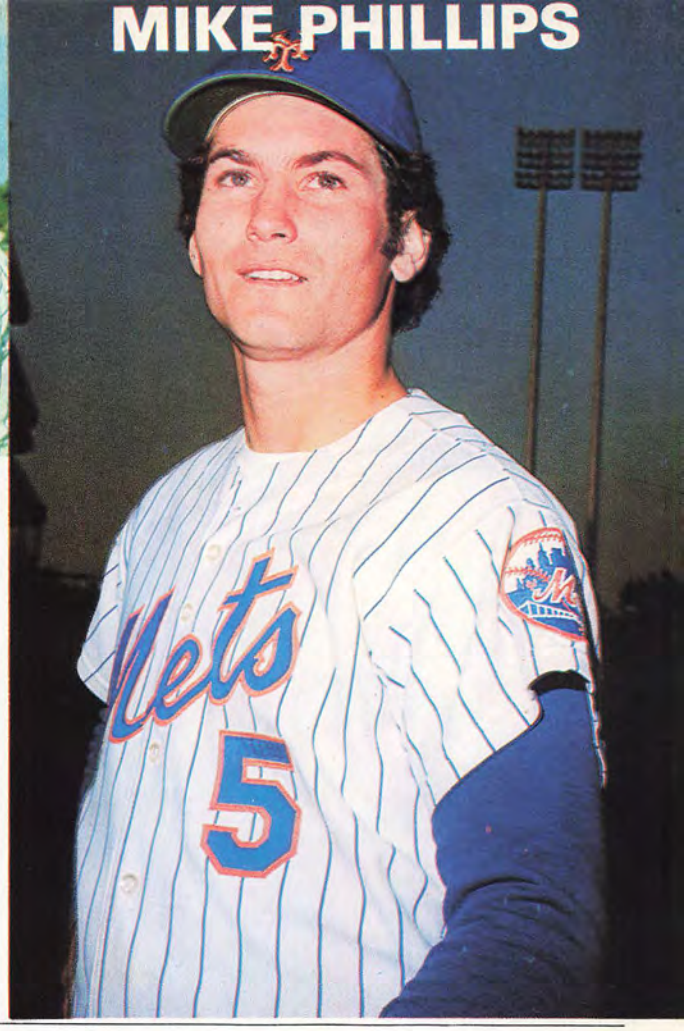
BORN: Feb. 2, 1951, (25), Covington, Ky. HT: 5-11; WT: 165;
BATS: R; THROWS: R; RESIDENCE: Covington
ACQUIRED: By Mets' Tidewater affiliate from Braves for Joe Nolan, Apr. 4, 1975.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1969-Greenwood (A)	.229	55	192	17	44	5	1	2	33	19	29	1
1970-Shreveport (AA)	.263	69	251	35	66	9	5	4	15	16	43	16
1971-Richmond (AAA)	.180	33	89	11	16	3	0	1	6	7	20	2
1971-Savannah (AA)	.296	32	125	14	37	6	1	1	6	5	19	2
1971-Atlanta (NL)	.000	9	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1972-Richmond (AAA)	.233	99	365	44	85	7	3	2	18	27	53	9
1973-Richmond (AAA)	.210	101	300	28	63	6	1	2	23	26	58	6
1973-Atlanta (NL)	.167	3	6	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
1974-Atlanta (NL)	.196	72	112	16	22	2	0	1	5	9	22	1
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.247	94	304	42	75	7	3	2	25	47	47	11
Major League Totals	.180	84	128	18	23	3	0	1	5	9	25	1

HANK WEBB RICK BALDWIN CRAIG SWAN

RON HODGES

ROY STAIGER



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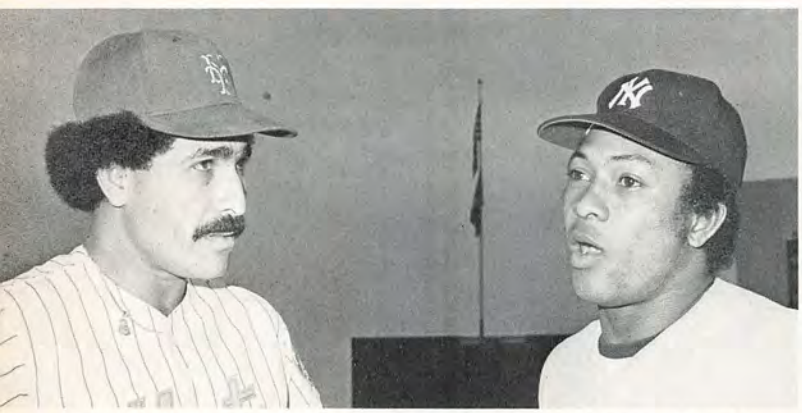
Felix Millan

BORN: August 21, 1943, Yabucoa, P.R.
HT: 5-11; WT: 172;

1975: NL's most under-rated player enjoyed finest campaign with imposing stats that included three clubs records: 162-game log (matched only by Dave Cash & Pete Rose) erasing 157-game marks of Roy McMillan (1965) & Bud Harrelson (1970); 191 hits (exceeded only by Cash, Steve Garvey, Rose & Ted Simmons), surpassing own 1973 standard; and 37 doubles, eclipsing Rusty Staub's 36 of 1973. . . League's toughest man to fan third successive year with 28 strikeouts representing 26.54-per trip ratio. . . Knicked by league-leading 12 pitches. . . Uncommon total of 56 RBI for second place batter one short of his 1969 high. . . Accumulated hitting streaks of 19 games (July 5-26) and 13 (Aug. 25-Sept. 7). . . Credits offensive resurgence to bat switch from 37 ounces to 34. . . Reported for usual Puerto Rican Winter League exposure for Caguas.

Paid immediate 1972 dividends as focal figure in "best trade in Met history", teaming with Harrelson as unexcelled keystone combination in 1973 and making offensive contributions of club records for hits sacrifices, while achieving 1000-hit milestone Aug. 3. . . Hampered by injuries in 1974, but none-the-less put together string of 55 errorless games, attained 1000-game plateau (June 1) and set league pace in sacs with 24. . . Got into record book at expense of Mets, participating in six double plays against them, Aug. 15, 1971, matching major league standard. . . Three-time Atlanta All Star product of Kansas City organization, which signed him after high school graduation in Puerto Rico and then left him exposed to draft by Braves at 1964 winter league meetings. . . Went 6-for-6 against Giants, July 6, 1970, year had to forego All Star starting assignment because of broken hand. . . Named 1967 Minor League Player-of-Year at Richmond.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1964-Daytona Beach (A) ...	.291	95	351	48	102	9	7	1	35	19	23	12
1965-Yakima (A)	.322	91	366	65	118	15	6	5	35	19	23	12
1965-Austin (AA)	.256	36	160	22	41	5	1	4	12	5	15	4
1966-Austin (AA)	.311	35	135	17	42	5	1	1	6	7	13	2
1966-Atlanta (NL)	.275	37	91	20	25	6	0	0	5	2	6	3
1966-Richmond (AAA)	.306	41	170	23	52	10	1	6	29	5	11	6
1967-Richmond (AAA)	.310	106	435	53	135	10	9	4	41	12	19	11
1967-Atlanta (NL)	.235	41	136	13	32	3	3	2	6	4	10	0
1968-Atlanta (NL)	.289	149	570	49	165	22	2	1	33	22	26	6
1969-Atlanta (NL)	.267	162	652	98	174	23	5	6	57	34	35	14
1970-Atlanta (NL)	.310	142	590	100	183	25	5	2	37	35	23	16
1971-Atlanta (NL)	.289	143	577	65	167	20	8	2	45	37	22	11
1972-Atlanta (NL)	.257	125	498	46	128	19	3	1	38	23	28	6
1973-Mets (NL)	.290	153	638	82	185	23	4	3	37	35	22	2
1974-Mets (NL)	.268	136	518	50	139	15	2	1	33	31	14	5
1975-Mets (NL)	.283	162	676	81	191	37	2	1	56	36	28	1
Major League Totals	.281	1250	4946	604	1389	193	34	19	347	259	214	64



New York's 1975 keystone rivals: Felix and Sandy Alomar.

BOISCLAIR, Bruce Armand

BORN: Dec. 9, 1952, (23), Putnam, Conn. HT: 6-2; WT: 190;

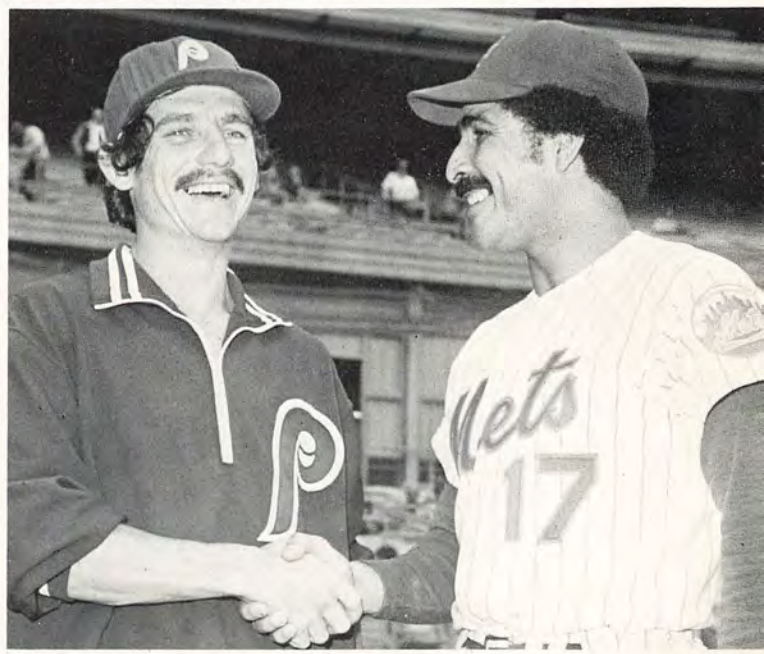
BATS: L; THROWS: L; RESIDENCE: St. Petersburg, Fla.

ACQUIRED: Mets' 20th selection in June, 1970, free agent draft. Signed by Len Zanke, June 9, 1970.

1975: Continued to win regard with impressive Tidewater campaign underlined by 126 hits (farm system's fifth best total), 21 steals (unsurpassed in organization above Class A level), and standout centerfield performance (four errors in 127 games). . . Overcame problems against lefthanded pitching with .290 mark aaginst southpaws, and enjoyed .357 Governor's Cup post-season series. . . Suffered broken nose when hit by Mike Paul (Toledo) pitch, missing nine games. . . Played with Florida Instructional League entry after season.

Got taste of big league life in 1974 after Sept. recall, managing three hits in 12 trips, and accompanied Mets on Japanese tour. . . After being 486th player selected in June, 1970, free agent draft, reported to Marion for Appalachian Rookie League service and promptly broke in with base-clearing double; wound up handling 50 chances flawlessly in field. . . Extraordinary scholastic career included All State football designation (end), MVP award in basketball & All Star conference outfield selection.

YEAR CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1970-Marion (Rookie)	.282	40	117	15	33	5	2	0	10	10	33	6
1971-Pompano Beach (A) ...	.269	129	401	64	108	18	4	0	47	45	99	20
1972-Visalia (A)	.348	88	328	64	114	19	4	4	32	29	69	16
1973-Memphis (AA)	.206	19	63	10	13	2	0	1	7	15	21	2
1973-Tidewater (AAA)	.255	80	243	30	62	10	0	2	23	28	59	7
1974-Tidewater (AAA)	.239	107	297	27	71	8	4	5	31	44	73	10
1974-Mets (NL)	.250	7	12	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
1975-Tidewater (AAA)	.278	127	453	62	126	16	5	4	37	54	94	21
Major League Totals	.250	7	12	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	4	0



Philly's Larry Bowa and Millan exchange pleasantries.

Jerry Koosman

BORN: Dec. 23, 1943, Appleton, Minn.
HT: 6-2; WT: 208;

1975: Recorded 100th major league triumph June 24 in 5-1 decision over Cardinals. . . Raised career total to 21 shutouts at expense of Expos, Astros and Cubs. . . Marked only two relief appearances with saves—for Tom Seaver Aug. 17, and Jon Matlack Aug. 19; only other save dated back to May 25, 1972, in Chicago for Tug McGraw, and hadn't worked out of bullpen since June of that year. . . Double figure strikeouts: 11 against Giants and 10 against LA and Phillies. . . No. 1 Met pitcher in RBI with six and second to Seaver's 17 safeties with 14. . . First big league steal—in third inning of 3-1 win over Reds, July 22—also represented first by Met hurler since 1971 Nolan Ryan theft.

Brought to attention of Met minor league dep't through combined efforts of Shea father-son usher team in accounts of Koosman's Ft. Bliss service team exploits described by his catcher, John Luchese, Jr., in letters to dad. . . . After winning NY-Penn League ERA and International League strikeout championships, compiled extraordinary 1968 credentials as rookie, including Met records for wins, ERA and shutouts—latter total of seven matching NL freshman standards of Irving M. Young for 1905 Braves and Grover Cleveland Alexander for 1911 Phillies; capped All Star distinction by fanning Carl Yastrzemski (only batter he faced), for final out of 1-0 NL victory. . . Had started 1968 on historic note by achieving first ever Met victory in home victory opener (3-0 over Giants) and ended it by losing out to Johnny Bench by one vote— 10½-9½—in closest rookie-of-year balloting on record. . . . Tormented twice in 1969 by fears career was ended: scalded pitching hand in New Year holiday kitchen accident, and on April 29 arm suddenly went dead pitching to Johnny Bateman in Montreal—yet contributed 17 victories (six shutouts) to Met Miracle and then beat Orioles twice in World Series. . . Relegated to bullpen April 30, 1972, after three successive defeats, but forced way back into starting rotation after nine successive relief appeaarnces. . . Maintained unbeaten status in post-season competition in 1973 with third game decision over Reds in Championship Series and fifth game triumph over Oakland in World Series. . . Joined Tom Seaver in 1974 as second Met pitcher in history to accumulate 1000 strikeouts and was also biggest staff winner (15).

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1965-Greenville (A)	5-11	4.71	27	14	3	107	101	70	56	56	128
1965-Williamsport (AA)	0-2	3.75	2	2	0	12	11	7	5	11	11
1966-Auburn (A)	12-7	1.38	24	19	12	170	109	43	26	43	174
1967-Mets (NL)	0-2	6.14	9	3	0	22	22	17	15	19	11
1967-Jacksonville (AAA)	11-10	2.43	25	22	14	178	137	60	48	46	183
1968-Mets (NL)	19-12	2.08	35	34	17	264	221	72	61	69	178
1969-Mets (NL)	17-9	2,28	32	32	16	241	187	66	61	68	180
1970-Mets (NL)	12-7	3.14	30	29	5	212	189	87	74	71	118
1971-Mets (NL)	6-11	3.04	26	24	4	166	160	66	56	51	96
1972-Mets (NL)	11-12	4.14	34	24	4	163	155	81	75	52	147
1973-Mets (NL)	14-15	2.84	35	35	12	263	234	93	83	76	156
1974-Mets (NL)	15-11	3.36	35	35	13	265	258	113	99	85	188
1975-Mets (NL)	14-13	3.41	36	34	11	240	234	106	91	98	173
Major League Totals	108-92	3.01	272	250	82	1836	1660	701	615	589	1247

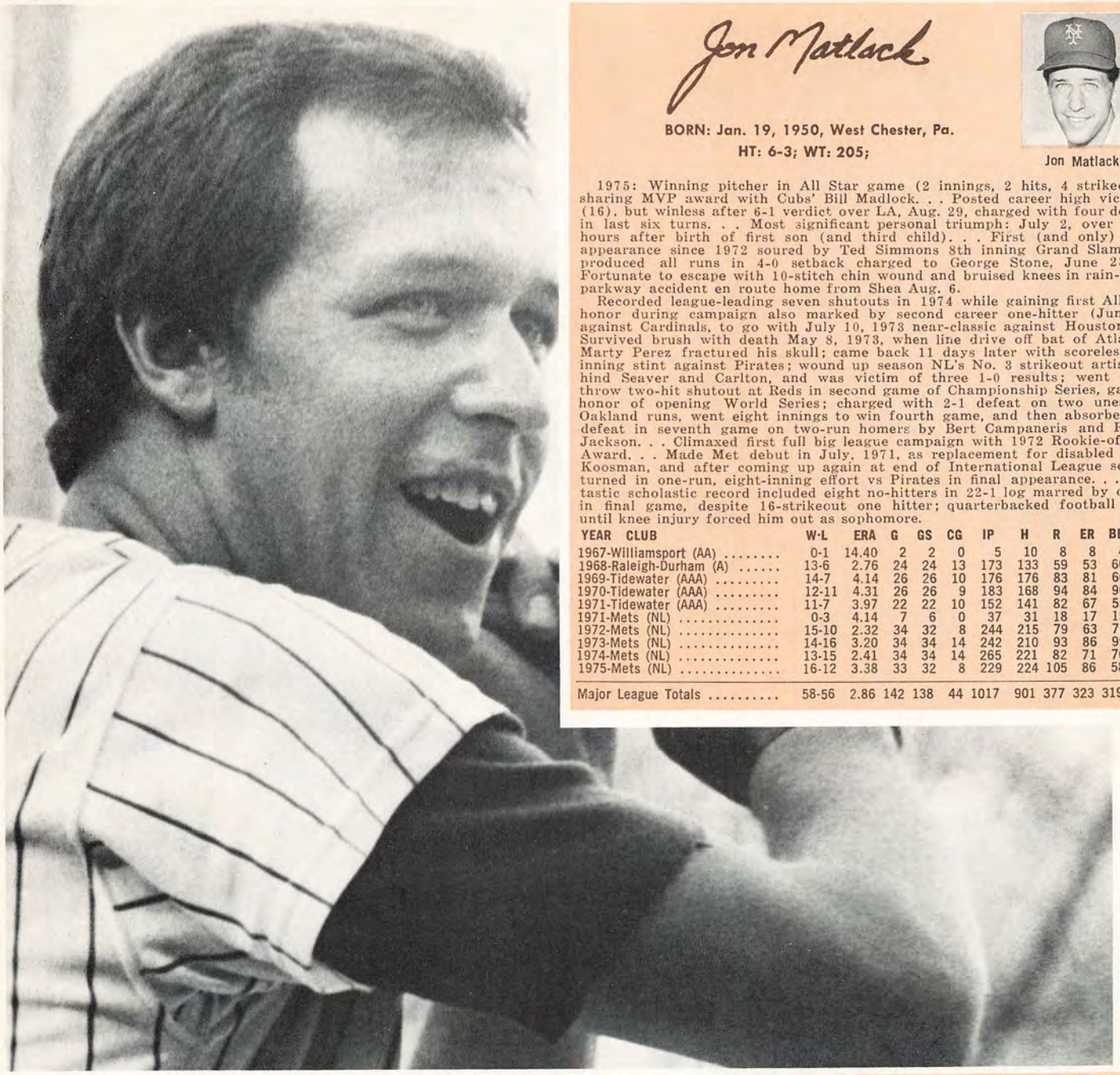
J. C. Martin and Jerry, major contributors to Met Miracle, recall 1969 exploits. Ex-catcher's White Sox broadcaster.

Tom Seaver presents Koo with 2nd base bag he stole last July 22.

FRONT COVER

In keeping with the Bicentennial spirit of 1976, the cover of the current edition of the Mets' annual Year Book represents "Mr. Met" garbed in Revolutionary cap and characteristic Shea verve. Copies of Met Year Book make fine souvenirs.

Year Book Editor .....Harold Weissman
Editorial Assistant .....Matt Winick
Staff Photographer .....Dennis Burke
Art Director .....Murray Ciers



Jon Matlack

Jon Matlack

BORN: Jan. 19, 1950, West Chester, Pa.
HT: 6-3; WT: 205;

1975: Winning pitcher in All Star game (2 innings, 2 hits, 4 strikeouts), sharing MVP award with Cubs' Bill Madlock. . . Posted career high victories (16), but winless after 6-1 verdict over LA, Aug. 29, charged with four defeats in last six turns. . . Most significant personal triumph: July 2, over Cubs, hours after birth of first son (and third child). . . First (and only) relief appearance since 1972 soured by Ted Simmons 8th inning Grand Slam that produced all runs in 4-0 setback charged to George Stone, June 23. . . Fortunate to escape with 10-stitch chin wound and bruised knees in rain-swept parkway accident en route home from Shea Aug. 6.

Recorded league-leading seven shutouts in 1974 while gaining first All Star honor during campaign also marked by second career one-hitter (June 29, against Cardinals, to go with July 10, 1973 near-classic against Houston). . . Survived brush with death May 8, 1973, when line drive off bat of Atlanta's Marty Perez fractured his skull; came back 11 days later with scoreless six-inning stint against Pirates; wound up season NL's No. 3 strikeout artist behind Seaver and Carlton, and was victim of three 1-0 results; went on to throw two-hit shutout at Reds in second game of Championship Series, gaining honor of opening World Series; charged with 2-1 defeat on two unearned Oakland runs, went eight innings to win fourth game, and then absorbed 5-2 defeat in seventh game on two-run homers by Bert Campaneris and Reggie Jackson. . . Climaxed first full big league campaign with 1972 Rookie-of-Year Award. . . Made Met debut in July, 1971, as replacement for disabled Jerry Koosman, and after coming up again at end of International League season, turned in one-run, eight-inning effort vs Pirates in final appearance. . . Fantastic scholastic record included eight no-hitters in 22-1 log marred by defeat in final game, despite 16-strikeout one hitter; quarterbacked football team until knee injury forced him out as sophomore.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1967-Williamsport (AA)	0-1	14.40	2	2	0	5	10	8	8	4	4
1968-Raleigh-Durham (A)	13-6	2.76	24	24	13	173	133	59	53	66	188
1969-Tidewater (AAA)	14-7	4.14	26	26	10	176	176	83	81	66	99
1970-Tidewater (AAA)	12-11	4.31	26	26	9	183	168	94	84	90	146
1971-Tidewater (AAA)	11-7	3.97	22	22	10	152	141	82	67	55	145
1971-Mets (NL)	0-3	4.14	7	6	0	37	31	18	17	15	24
1972-Mets (NL)	15-10	2.32	34	32	8	244	215	79	63	71	169
1973-Mets (NL)	14-16	3.20	34	34	14	242	210	93	86	99	205
1974-Mets (NL)	13-15	2.41	34	34	14	265	221	82	71	76	195
1975-Mets (NL)	16-12	3.38	33	32	8	229	224	105	86	58	154
Major League Totals	58-56	2.86	142	138	44	1017	901	377	323	319	747

METS YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORD

YEAR	W-L	PCT.	POS	GB-A	MANAGER
1962	40-120	.250	10	60½	Stengel
1963	51-111	.315	10	48½	Stengel
1964	53-109	.327	10	40	Stengel
1965	50-112	.309	10	47	Stengel-Westrum
1966	66-95	.410	9	28½	Westrum
1967	61-101	.377	10	40½	Westrum-Parker
1968	73-89	.451	9	24	Hodges
1969	100-62	.617	1	+8	Hodges
1970	83-79	.512	3-East	6	Hodges
1971	83-79	.512	3-East (T)	14	Hodges
1972	83-73	.532	3-East	13½	Berra
1973	82-79	.509	1	+1½	Berra
1974	71-91	.438	5-East	17	Berra
1975	82-80	.506	3-East (T)	10½	Berra-McMillan

Jeff Grose

Jeff Grose

BORN: Dec. 15, 1954, Kingston, Pa.
HT: 6-1; WT: 175;

1975: Biggest winner (13) on Jackson staff with every Texas League rival among his victims at least once. . . League's top fielding pitcher with 32 errorless chances and touched for only two home runs in 145 innings. . . Reported to Tidewater for International League playoffs and beat Charleston in opening series. . . Pitched in Florida Instructional League after season.

Youngest player on Mets' roster acquired year of professional experience at 17 before he had received his Colonia (NJ) High School diploma, having become eligible for free agent draft prior to 1973 graduation; was 325th player selected in 1972 draft. . . Racked up three scholastic no-hitters before making pro debut at Marion in Appalachian Rookie League, where smoking fast ball fanned 68 in 62 innings. . . Self confidence that falls inch short of barshness reflected in unmasked disappointment over Mets' decision not to take him north with varsity last year after impressive spring training performance.

YEAR CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1972-Marion (Rookie)	4-3	4.79	11	11	2	62	52	39	33	46	68
1973-Batavia (A)	3-2	2.30	10	9	2	43	31	14	11	35	58
1974-Anderson (A)	8-8	2.72	21	20	8	129	93	50	39	81	111
1975-Jackson (AA)	13-8	3.53	24	24	7	145	149	74	57	85	87

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JON MATLACK

The Matlacks: Mama Dee, holding Danny; Papa Jon, Jennifer & Kristina (right).

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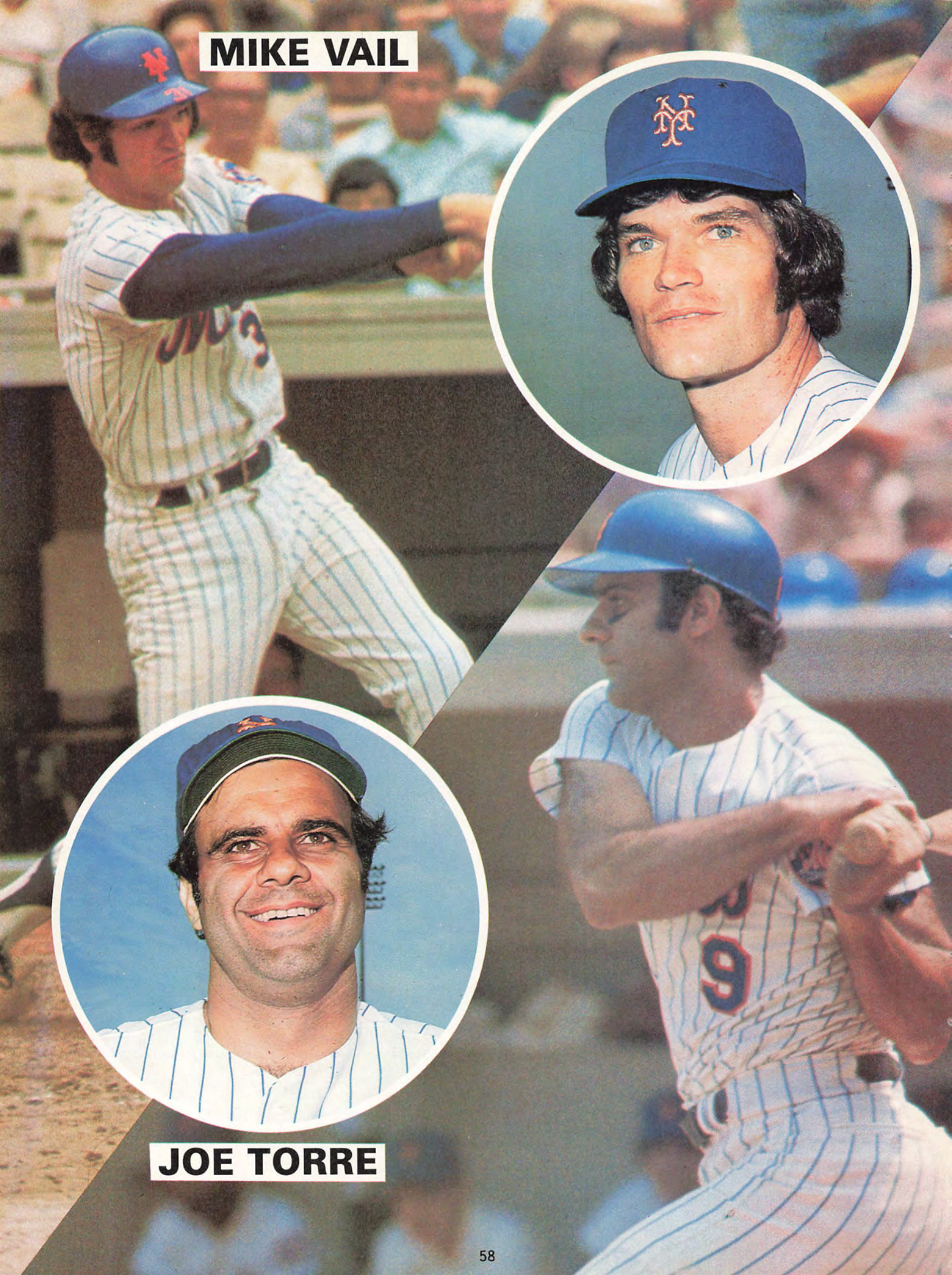
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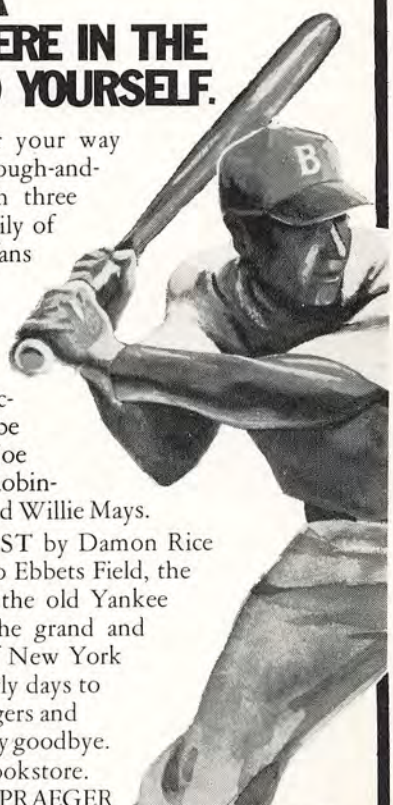

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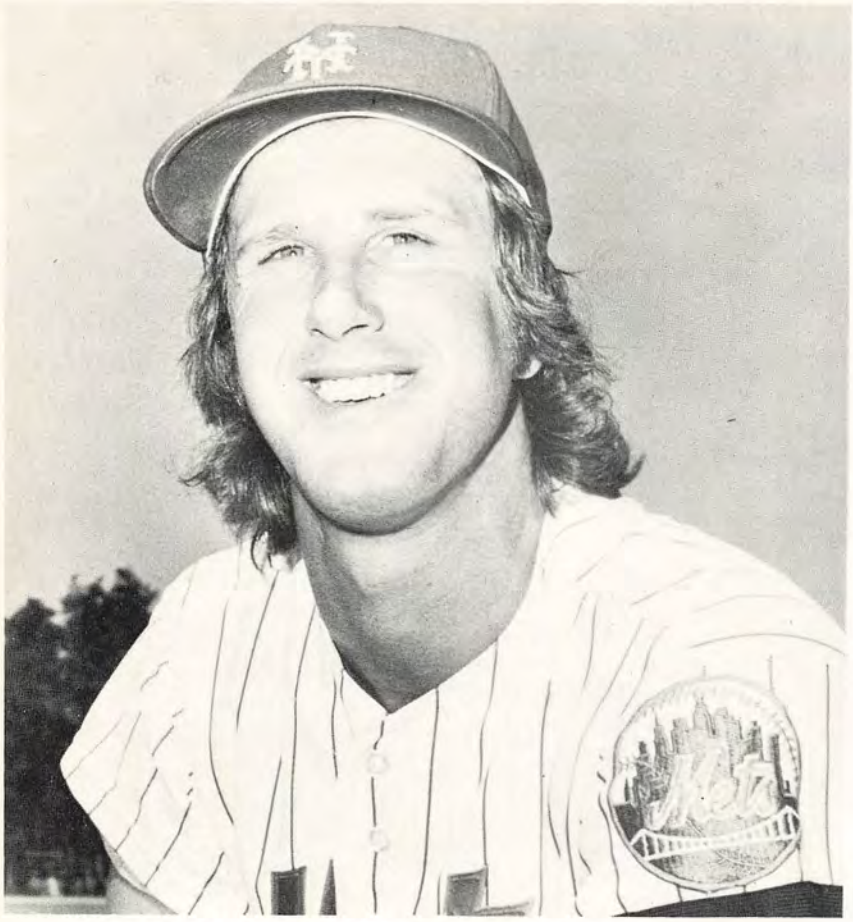

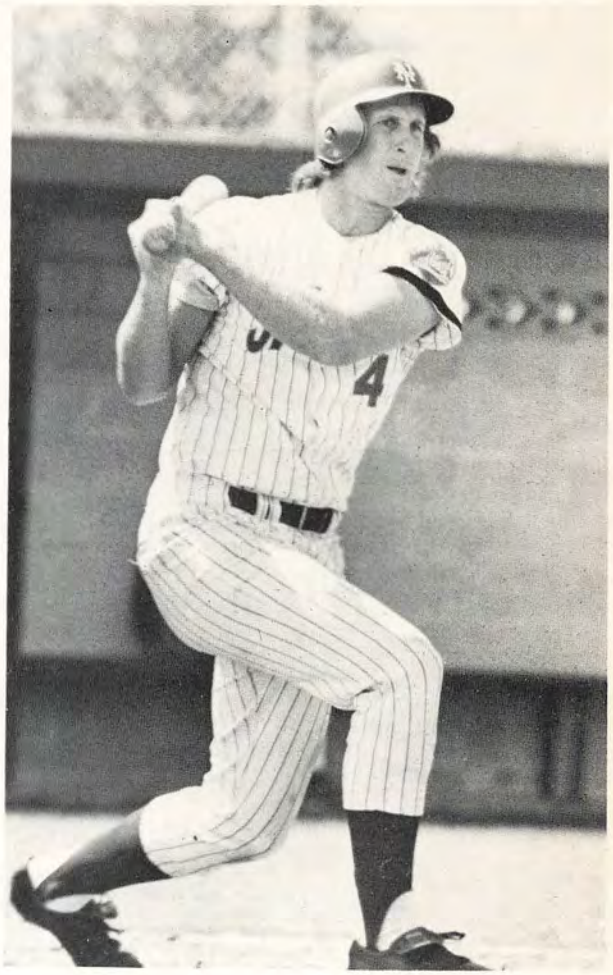

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APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					TV 9 2:05 MONTREAL	MONTREAL 2:15 TV 10
TV 11 2:05 MONTREAL	12	TV 13 CHICAGO	14 CHICAGO	15	PITTSBURGH TV 16 N	TV 17 PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH TV 18	19 N ST. LOUIS	ST. LOUIS TV 20 N	21 ST. LOUIS	22	TV 23 N HOUSTON	HOUSTON TV 24 N
TV 25 HOUSTON	ATLANTA 4:05 26 SC	TV 27 SC 4:05 ATLANTA	ATLANTA 4:05 28 SC	29 SC 4:05 ATLANTA	HOUSTON 8:05 TV 30 N	

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						TV 1 2:15 HOUSTON
HOUSTON 2:05 TV 2	3	CINCINNATI 8:05 TV 4 N	TV 5 N 8:05 CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI 4:05 6	TV 7 N 8:05 SAN DIEGO	SAN DIEGO 2:15 TV 8
TV 9 2:05 Mother's Day SAN DIEGO	10	TV 11 N ATLANTA	ATLANTA TV 12 N	13	CINCINNATI TV 14 N	TV 15 CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI TV 16 ••	17	PHILADELPHIA 8:05 TV 18 N	19 N 8:05 PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA 4:05 20 SC	TV 21 N MONTREAL	MONTREAL TV 22 N
TV 23 MONTREAL	PHILADELPHIA 24 N	TV 25 N PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA TV 26 N	TV 27 N PHILADELPHIA	ST. LOUIS 8:05 TV 28 N	TV 29 N 8:05 ST. LOUIS
ST. LOUIS 2:05 TV 30	•• 31 H 1:05 TV PITTSBURGH					

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		PITTSBURGH 8:05 TV 1 N	TV 2 N 8:05 CHICAGO	CHICAGO 2:05 3	TV 4 N LOS ANGELES	LOS ANGELES TV 5 N
TV 6 LOS ANGELES	SAN DIEGO 7 N	8 N SAN DIEGO	SAN DIEGO 9 N	TV 10 N SAN DIEGO	SAN FRANCISCO 11 N	TV 12 SAN FRANCISCO
SAN FRANCISCO TV 13 ••	14 M.T. N YANKEES	LOS ANGELES 8:05 TV 15 N	16 N 8:05 LOS ANGELES	LOS ANGELES 8:05 TV 17 N	N 18 8:05 TV SAN FRANCISCO	SAN FRANCISCO 4:05 19 TV
TV 20 2:05 Father's Day SAN FRAN.	ST. LOUIS 21 N	TV 22 N ST. LOUIS	ST. LOUIS TV 23 N	24	CHICAGO 25	TV 26 CHICAGO
CHICAGO TV 27	28 N 8:05 ST. LOUIS	ST. LOUIS 8:05 TV 29 N	30 N 8:05 ST. LOUIS			

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				ST. LOUIS 2:05 1	TV 2 N 8:05 CHICAGO	CHICAGO 2:15 TV 3
TV 4 •• 1:05 CHICAGO	HOUSTON H 5 N	TV 6 N HOUSTON	HOUSTON TV 7 N	TV 8 N ATLANTA	ATLANTA TV 9 N	TV 10 N ATLANTA
ATLANTA TV 11	12	PHILADELPHIA All-Star Game TV 13 N	14	HOUSTON 8:05 TV 15 N	TV 16 N 8:05 HOUSTON	HOUSTON 4:05 TV 17 OT
TV 18 2:05 ATLANTA	ATLANTA 8:05 19 N	TV 20 N CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI TV 21 N	22 Tidewater	MONTREAL TV 23 N	TV 24 N MONTREAL
MONTREAL TV 25	TV 26 N PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA TV 27 N	TV 28 N 8:05 PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH 2:05 29	TV 30 N 8:05 PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA 2:15 TV 31

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
TV 1 2:05 PHILADELPHIA	MONTREAL 8:05 2 N	TV 3 N 8:05 MONTREAL	MONTREAL 2:05 4	TV 5 N PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH TV 6 N	TV 7 N PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH TV 8	9 Cooperstown BREWERS	SAN DIEGO 8:05 TV 10 N	11 N 8:05 SAN DIEGO	SAN DIEGO 2:05 12	TV 13 N 8:05 CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI 2:15 TV 14
TV 15 2:05 CINCINNATI	16	17 N LOS ANGELES	LOS ANGELES TV 18 N	TV 19 N LOS ANGELES	20	21 N SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO TV 22	23	SAN FRANCISCO TV 24 N	25 SAN FRANCISCO	26	TV 27 N 8:05 LOS ANGELES	LOS ANGELES 2:15 TV 28
TV 29 2:05 LOS ANGELES	30	TV 31 8:05 SAN FRANCISCO N				

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			SAN FRANCISCO 1 8:05	2 2:05 SAN FRANCISCO	PHILADELPHIA 8:05 TV 3 N	TV 4 2:15 PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA 2:05 TV 5	TV 6 H CHICAGO	CHICAGO 7	8 CHICAGO	9	10 N ST. LOUIS	ST. LOUIS TV 11 N
TV 12 ST. LOUIS	PITTSBURGH TV 13 N	TV 14 N PITTSBURGH	ST. LOUIS 8:05 TV 15 N	16 N 8:05 ST. LOUIS	PITTSBURGH 8:05 17 N	TV 18 2:15 PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH 2:05 TV 19	20 4:05 PITTSBURGH	MONTREAL 21 N	22 N MONTREAL	MONTREAL TV 23 N	24 N 8:05 CHICAGO	CHICAGO TV 25 2:15
TV 26 2:05 CHICAGO	MONTREAL 8:05 27 N	28 N 8:05 MONTREAL	MONTREAL 7:05 FA TV 29 N	30	OCTOBER	
					PHILADELPHIA 1 N	TV 2 N PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA TV 3						

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(Beginning on or about March 1, 1976)

	Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays
Grand Central Terminal*	8:00-6:00	8:30-4:00	Closed
Shea Stadium**	8:00-6:00	9:00-5:00	9:00-5:00
Manufacturers Han.***	9:00-3:00	Closed	Closed
Abraham & Straus****	9:45-7:00	9:45-7:00	Closed

*Foot of 42nd Street & Vanderbilt Avenue Ramp
**126th St. & Roosevelt Ave. near Gate D
***Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company all branches.
****Abraham & Straus Department stores all branches.

You may ORDER NOW BY MAIL for any MET home game as far in advance as you like. Tickets will be mailed well in advance of the game specified.

HOW TO ORDER BY MAIL

1. Specify date of game or games and the NUMBER and PRICE of Tickets desired.
2. Make check or money order payable to NEW YORK METS. (Please do not send cash or stamps)
3. Add 25¢ for postage and handling charges.
4. Mail to Mets' Ticket Manager, Shea Stadium, Flushing, N.Y. 11368.

1976 GAME TIMES

Game	Wk-days	Sat.	Sun.
Single	2:05	2:15	2:05
Doubleheader	1:05	1:05	1:05
Twi-Night	5:35	5:35	—
Night	8:05	8:05	—

Note: See schedule for indicated games starting at 4:05 PM.

Special Days — Because You're Something Special

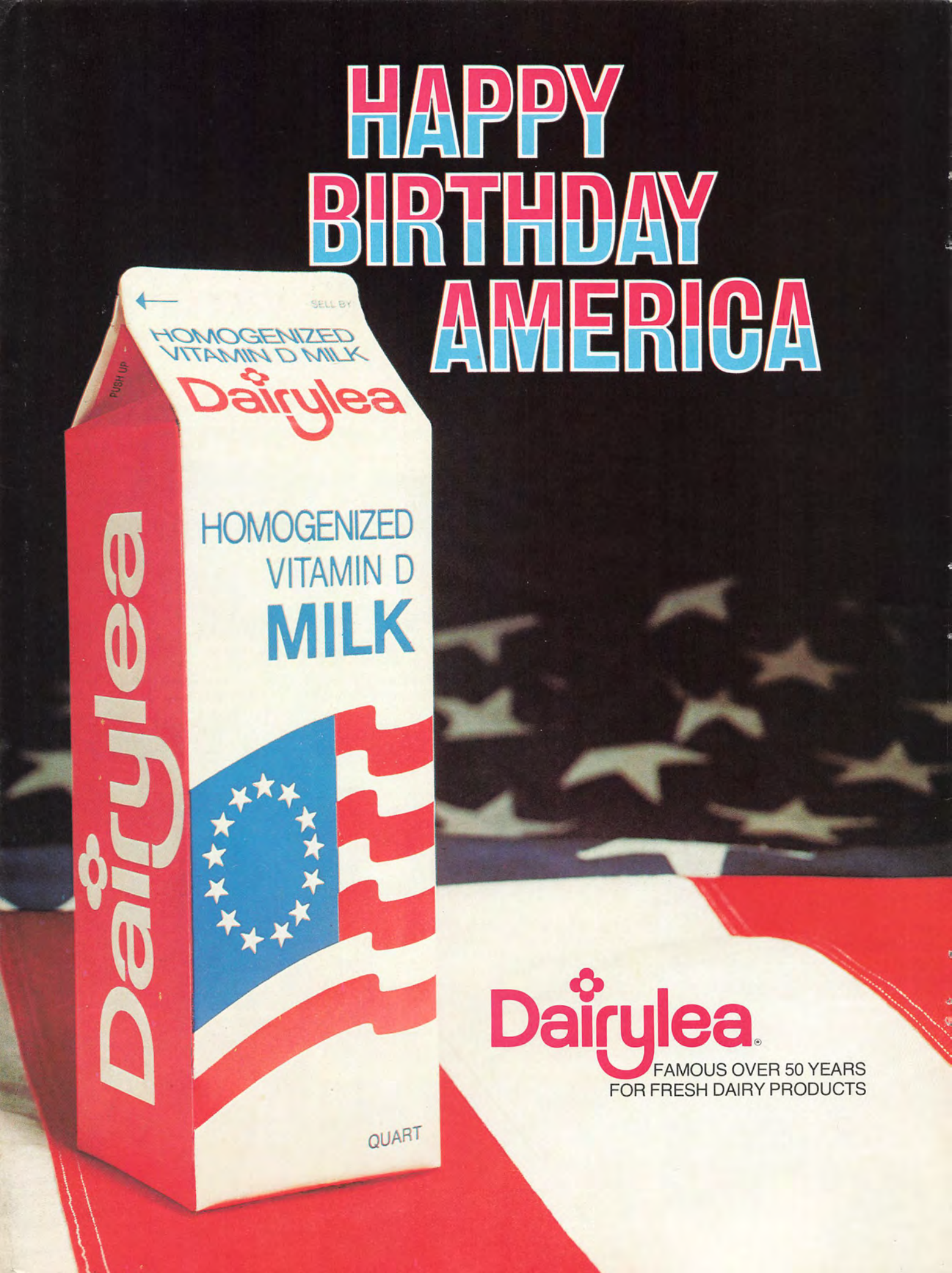
True Spirit of Christmas: Janet Boyle (left), president of Lady Met Fan Club, and our own Bernice Gera proudly survey gifts arranged for by club members at their Shea Yuletide party. Gifts were donated to Sheltering Arms Childrens Service & North Shore University Hosp. in memory of beloved Mrs. Joan Payson.

Their men may wear the pants in the family, but Met wives aren't exactly out of uniform as lovely-gowned models of loveliness. Left to right: Donna Garrett, Diana Stone, Sharon Grote, Angela Jones, Nancy Seaver, Dani Torre, Lavonne Koosman and Carol Kranepool at Shea charity event.

1976 METS' PROMOTION DATES

Photo Album Day	May 8
Helmet Day	May 30
Met Medallion Day	July 3
Oldtimers Day	July 17
Fan Appreciation Night	September 29
Banner Day	(To be announced)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA



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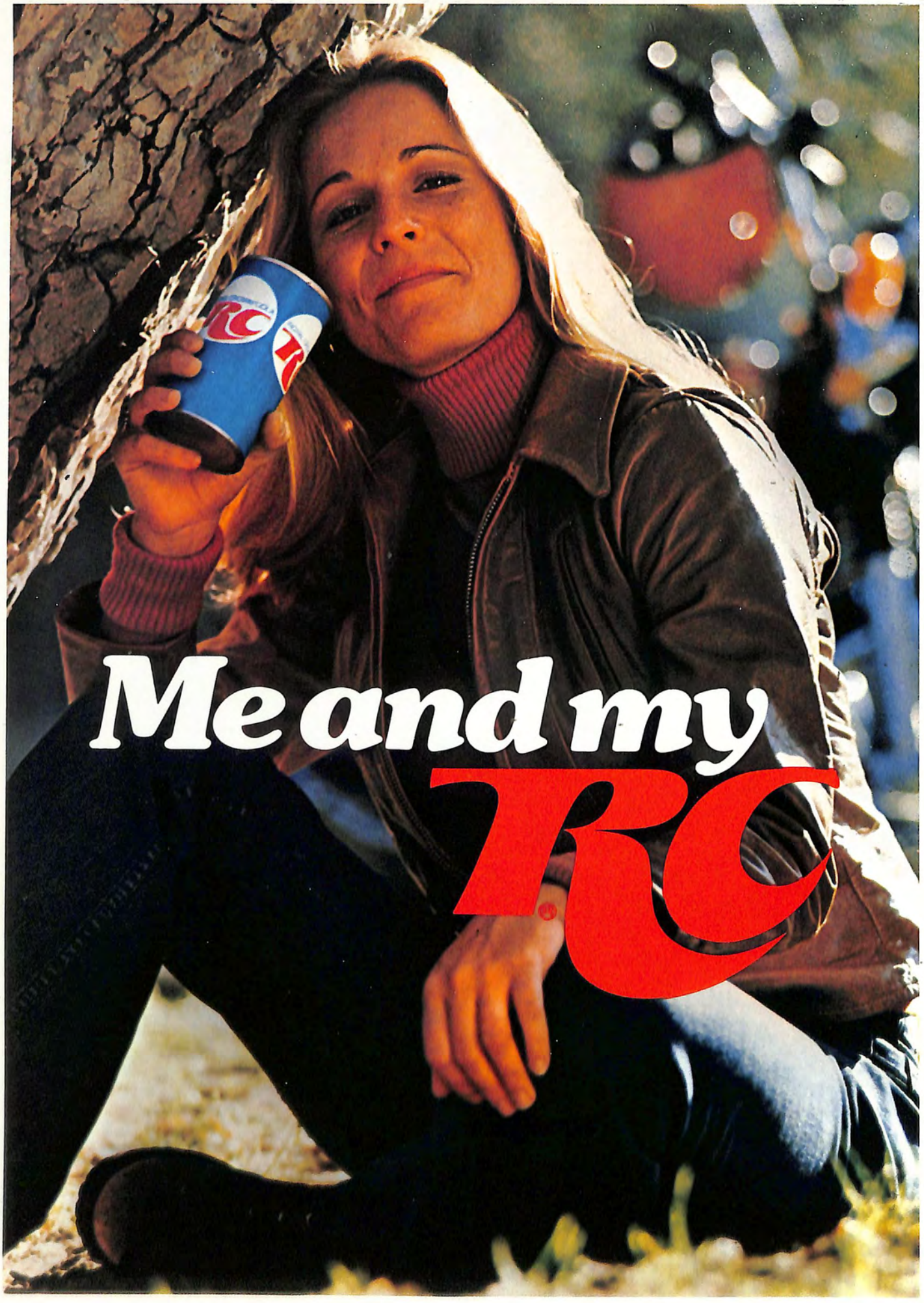
1976 NEW YORK METS TEAM PICTURE

(As of March 22)

FRONT ROW (Left to right): Coaches Phil Cavarretta, Roy McMillan, Eddie Yost, Rube Walker, Joe Pignatano and Billy Connors.
SECOND ROW: Jerry Grote, Mike Vail, Felix Millan, Bob Apodaca, Rick Baldwin, Mgr. Joe Frazier, Bud Harrelson, Del Unser, Wayne Garrett, Joe Torre.
THIRD ROW: Jerry Koosman, Ken Perry, Dave Kingman, Craig Swan, Ed Kranepool, Tom Seaver, Skip Lockwood, Mickey Lolich, Tom Hall, Jon Matlack.
FOURTH ROW: Trainer Tom McKenna, Bruce Boisclair, Billy Baldwin, Randy Trapp, Mike Phillips, Randy Tate, Hank Webb, Traveling Sec. Lou Niss.
TOP ROW: Roy Staiger, Johnny Stearns, Ken Sanders, Nino Espinosa, Jack Heidemann, Jeff Grose, Ron Hodges.


Me and my
RC

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